

Mr Foot says Lords defy democratic rule over union Bill

Secretary of State for Employment, yesterday called on the Lords to condemn the Bill by insisting on Lord's press freedom amendment the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Amendment) Bill. He added that the Government intended to reintroduce the Bill next session. Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary, said that if Tory amendments were forced through it might lead to industrial unrest.

Measure back next session

Mr Foot: 'Will of Commons frustrated'

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He placed on record the Commons' total unacceptance of Mr Foot's argument that the Lords had defied democratic rule by insisting on Lord's press freedom amendment the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Amendment) Bill. He added that the Government intended to reintroduce the Bill next session. Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary, said that if Tory amendments were forced through it might lead to industrial unrest.

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UC hints at union disruption

Our Editor said yesterday that the House of Commons would be disrupted by the passage of the Bill. He added that the Government intended to reintroduce the Bill next session. Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary, said that if Tory amendments were forced through it might lead to industrial unrest.

The statement argues: 'The real intention behind this move is to build a foundation for restoring as soon as may be the essential features of the disastrous 1971 Industrial Relations Act.'

Street threat spreads as 'Express' talks adjourn

edge aimed at ending press pay dispute this morning. Discussions last night broke down when workers involved in the dispute went home.

anti-inflation guidelines, stopped production of London editions of the newspaper on Tuesday. Publication of London editions was halted again last night when workers involved in the dispute went home.

Drugs group to repay excess profit of £3.75m

By Malcolm Brown

Hoffman-La Roche, the Swiss-based multinational drugs group which has been engaged in a fierce pricing battle with the British Government for the last 21 years, has agreed to pay back the excess profits it made on the tranquilizers Librium and Valium.

The settlement could produce a ripple effect overseas, where other governments have been examining the group's prices. Roche wanted to much more than double the price of Valium, but it has been agreed that such an increase would be politically unacceptable at the moment.

Whitehall calculates that the amount due for the period January 1, 1970 to April 23, 1973 when the Government imposed its price cuts on the two drugs was £3.75m, including interest.



Dr Andrei Sakharov: a 'security risk'

Russia bars Sakharov trip to Oslo

From Edmund Stevens, Moscow, Nov 12

The Soviet authorities have rejected the application of Dr Andrei Sakharov, the dissident nuclear physicist, for permission to visit Oslo next month to collect his Nobel Peace Prize.

Dr Sakharov was summoned today to Ovir, the passport and visa office, and informed of the decision by the officer in charge.

10 hurt by bomb at a Mayfair restaurant

By Craig Seton

Ten people were injured when a bomb exploded without warning in the oyster bar beside Scott's Restaurant in Mount Street, Mayfair, London, last night. The incident occurred opposite the Trattoria Fiori restaurant, which was wrecked by a bomb two weeks ago, when 18 people were hurt.

The injured were taken to St George's Hospital at Hyde Park Corner which has set up an emergency procedure for people injured in bomb blasts in the district.

Mr Peter Dunne, a photographer who was near by when the bomb went off at about 9.45, said it did not seem to be large but the fire that followed and a strong smell of paraffin indicated that it might have been a fire bomb. London Fire Brigade sent four appliances to the scene and the fire was quickly extinguished.

Australian caretaker Cabinet formed as protests continue

From Douglas Aiton, Melbourne, Nov 12

Amid disturbances throughout the country today, the caretaker Prime Minister, Mr Malcolm Fraser, confirmed that the Australian general election will be held on Saturday, December 13. The caretaker ministry was sworn in this afternoon at Government House while protest demonstrations over the dismissal of Mr Gough Whitlam's Labour Government took place in Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane and Canberra.



Mr Whitlam, addressing a Canberra rally, yesterday.

In Melbourne, the Liberal Premier of Victoria, Mr Rupert Hamer, called for calm as some unions planned stoppages and rallies and a crowd of several hundred held a sit-down protest in the middle of the city.

In Sydney, striking maritime, engineering and building workers smashed through a line of police to enter the Sydney stock exchange. Police reinforcements were called to deal with them.

He said that the Governor-General had seen Mr Fraser 10 minutes before he was dismissed. 'I spoke no allegations but we can all form inferences', Mr Whitlam said. Later the Governor-General decided through his secretary that there had been any deal to dismiss Mr Whitlam and appoint Mr Fraser as Prime Minister.

Leaders of the new Government, including Mr Fraser, alleged that the Australian Broadcasting Commission had shown a bias towards Labour. It was suggested that this would be rectified during the election campaign.

Shore teams alerted as dispersal ships tackle 3,000-ton oil slick

By Michael Horsnell

Coastguards in the Strait of Dover reported last night that a 25-knot wind, still freshening, was threatening to sweep an oil slick ashore between Folkestone and Deal. Kent pollution teams were alerted.

Fears of widespread pollution along the coast were allayed when the slick, earlier in thick fog between HMS Achilles, a Royal Navy frigate, and the Olympic Alliance, a 216,500-ton Liberian tanker.

The tanker was hit amidships and the oil escaped from a gaping hole. The Achilles, with more than 260 men on board, suffered bucking along 14ft of her port bow.

When she arrived at Portsmouth last night with her bows flustered, a junior seaman was flown to hospital with minor head injuries. Three others walked off the ship into a waiting ambulance.

The Olympic Alliance, under charter to British Petroleum, was on her way from the Persian Gulf to Wilhelmshaven.

Mr Nigel Neilson, of the Onassis fleet, told me: 'She is proceeding slowly to Wilhelmshaven. We believe she was in the right channel.'

MPs' wealth tax committee fails to report

By Our Political Staff

The select committee on the wealth tax is understood to have failed to produce a report because the government side did not provide a majority when a vote was taken.

Two Labour backbenchers, Dr Jeremy Bray (Motherwell and Wishaw) and Dr Colin Phipps (Dudley, West), were absent with permission on a delegation when the combined votes of Conservatives and the one Liberal on the committee, Mr John Pardon (Cornwall, North), defeated the draft report of Dr Douglas Jay (Wandsworth, Battersea, North), the Labour chairman.

Quarantine for captive birds

Parrots and other imported captive birds will soon have to stay in quarantine for 35 days, Mr Strang, Parliamentary Secretary at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, said yesterday. The regulation is expected to come into force on March 1.

Franco relapse

Madrid, Nov 12—General Franco's condition became critical again today after a very uncomfortable night. Internal bleeding and lung troubles developed and his heartbeat was irregular, his doctors announced.

Giant jet on fire

New York, Nov 12—A giant DC10 airliner of Overseas National Airways burst into flames on take-off at Kennedy airport today. The pilot managed to halt the aircraft on the runway and all 139 people on board were taken off.

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a Marxist attack

regime in Luanda beat by a rival army yesterday. The regime said 18 Communist troops were killed in the fighting. In Uganda, the army is under way to remove Soviet experts and President Obote has written to President Nyerere asking for help in ending their policies.



One of a pair of Louis XV jardinières and stands made by Thomas Germain which broke at auction records for antique silver at Christie's sale in Geneva on Tuesday. The price is equivalent to £144,545. Sale room, page 8

'cod war'

Minister of State for Commonwealth Affairs, yesterday said that a new 'cod war' fishing limit. The limit runs out at midday on November 14.

nits stay

50 mph and 60 mph posted last December as a measure to stay for Motorists, page 27

Lords pass Land Bill

The House of Lords gave a quiet passage last night to the Community Land Bill, although the Bishop of London rebuked the Government.

Ceasefire centres in Ulster closed

The Government's incident centres set up to monitor the Provisional IRA's ceasefire in Northern Ireland and to prevent accidental breaches were shut yesterday by Mr Rees, Secretary of State. But Provisional Sinn Féin said that although the truce was shaky it intended to keep open its own incident centres.

Schoolboy thefts: A book published yesterday says that 1,425 London schoolboys interviewed by researchers admitted at least some stealing.

Lebanon: The Government in Beirut has accepted an offer of mediation from France.

Reith Lecture: Professor Daniel Boorstin envisages America as a state of mind as well as a mass of land.

On other pages

- Leader page 15
- Letters: on recording accused's confession from Mr. G. Selva Rajan; on mental offences from Mr. Michael J. Bellis
- Leading articles: the trade union Bill; Community Land Bill; Dr Sakharov
- Arts, page 16
- Letters: Daniels on the Barocci exhibition at Bologna; Irving Warlike on Cranford (Theatre Royal, Stratford, E.); Charles on Hammer (Dorby Playhouse)
- Obituary, page 16
- Sir Kenneth Pickhorn, M. Marius Durey
- Books, page 17
- Letters: Lifford reviews Edith Wharton— a new biography by R. W. B. Lewis; A. L. Rowse's Jonathan Swift reviewed by David
- Sport, pages 10 and 11
- Football: Portugal and Czechoslovakia draw to give England chance in European championship; Manchester United beaten 4-0
- Features, pages 8 and 14
- Professor Walter Laqueur on the accusations of Nazism being racism
- Business News, pages 18 to 24
- Stock Markets: Although strong, equities were again held back by profit taking. The FT index closed 1.6 better, at 371.3
- Financial Editor: Unilever in a recovery phase; Sunbury's threatened growth rate; Spillers' rights issue
- Letters, page 15
- TV & Radio, page 10, 11
- Theatre, page 16
- 25 Years Ago, page 9
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HOME NEWS

Mr Rees shuts Ulster incident centres as IRA violence goes on

From Stewart Tandler

The Government incident centres set up in February in Northern Ireland to monitor the Provisional IRA's ceasefire and to prevent accidental breaches of the truce were closed yesterday by Mr Rees, Secretary of State.

The move does not represent an end to the ceasefire, which Stormont Castle maintains is a decision for the Provisional IRA, but is a further indication of the sour atmosphere surrounding it.

The centres, in Belfast, Dungannon, Newry, Londonderry, Armagh, and Enniskillen, were each manned by a civil servant in direct contact with a central office called "Ramparts" at Stormont Castle. That office was manned by a senior civil servant and an army officer, who also closed yesterday but it is understood that channels of communication still exist between the Provisionals and the Government.

Officially the centres have been closed because their value has diminished. But the Government was not happy at the way the Provisionals used them to claim responsibility for their acts.

The ceasefire is now at the level where talks between the two sides have not been held for several weeks. In a sense Mr Rees's announcement is an admission that much of the momentum of the ceasefire has been lost. But he still seems intent on ending internment, and a few hours before he announced the closure he released 20 internees from the Maze prison, leaving 123 who seem likely to be freed by Christmas.

Provisional Sinn Féin said later that its incident centres would remain open although several have been shut recently. Mr Seamus Loughran, Northern organiser, said: "The ceasefire is not looking too good. It has been on shaky ground for a very long time and this certainly will not consolidate it." He added that the government centres had not proved useful recently.

The Rev William Arlow, who helped to engineer the ceasefire, said it was shaky. He felt it was necessary for the

Government and Provisional Sinn Féin to review the situation.

Loyalists welcomed the closure and the official Unionist Party and the Vanguard Unionist Party hoped that the Government would now adopt a tougher attitude towards the IRA.

A few hours after the centres had closed another man died in Belfast in the feud between the Provisionals and the official IRA. The death of Mr Michael Dugan, aged 25, brings the number killed in the feud since it began on October 28 to 11.

The security forces estimate that the Provisionals have had two men killed and 14 wounded while the official IRA has had seven men killed and 41 wounded. A girl, aged six, was also murdered.

Mr Dugan, chairman of the Falls Taxpayers' Association, which organizes a taxi service in the Roman Catholic area, was killed in a billiard hall in Hawthorne Street.

Mr Gerry Maloney, aged 34, who was with him at the time, was wounded in the groin.

Mr Dugan's death took the number of people killed in the past two days to six. Early yesterday the body of Mr John Swindle, aged 18, was found in a road in the Old Park area.

SDLP move: The SDLP wants the "loyalist" majority report from Northern Ireland's Convention which rules out power-sharing at ministerial level to be returned by Westminster with instructions to think again (a Staff Reporter writes).

Mr Addy Devlin and Mr John Hume, two prominent members, said in London yesterday that the party wanted the Government to reject the report by the United Ulster Unionist Coalition.

Mr Devlin said: "It is fairly clear that we could then work at something entirely new for the future government of Northern Ireland."

He calculates that there are 11 among the loyalist Convention majority who are sufficiently affected by the conversion of Mr William Craig, the Vanguard Unionist leader, to some form of temporary power-sharing to consider realignment.

Surcharges on 66% of all imports demanded

By Martin Tucker

Mr Ronald Hayward, general secretary of the Labour Party, made clear yesterday that he did not think the Chancellor of the Exchequer had gone far enough with his pledge on Tuesday night that the Government was prepared to use short-term selective import controls.

Speaking in Leicester, he demanded a much more comprehensive system of import controls, involving surcharges on perhaps two-thirds of all the manufactured and semi-manufactured goods imported into Britain.

He welcomed Mr Healey's statement on the use of selective controls, where it could be shown that they could rescue a viable industry. But he added: "It will be no good imposing import controls on just a few products. We have got to do it properly and go to a massive improvement in our balance of trade. Anything else is a waste of time and effort."

Mr Hayward believed that the Government should aim at an improvement of at least £1,500m a year on the balance of payments by the middle of next year, giving a saving of more than 300,000 jobs by next winter. That would be achieved by a 15 per cent surcharge applied to two-thirds of manufactured and semi-manufactured imports, about 34 per cent of all imports.

He refused to accept the argument that such controls would invite retaliation.

He added that the number of unemployed was a disgrace. "If we leave it much longer before strong action is taken, then we shall face unemployment of more than a million for months ahead."

The starting point of the new strategy should be to pump more spending power into the economy. "A really massive boost is needed."

Options were limited and if the Government just cut taxes and started a boom in consumer spending the import bill would mount and public accounts would be put further in the red. The answer, he suggested, was to cut the deficit on the balance of trade.

Later turns to the reform of powers.

Labour governments have learnt that it is better to live with the gentlemen's agreement between the two Houses than have existed since the Parliament Act, 1911, than to draft a new statement of second Chamber powers that might be punctured by the House of Lords.

And in 1968 there were some Labour backbenchers, as well as Conservatives, who saw quite as many objections to a House composed of life peers nominated by Prime Ministerial patronage as to a House in which hereditary and life peers, day by day, were broadly balanced.

Labour backbenchers bluster about the House of Lords and its future need not therefore be taken seriously in the immediate aftermath of the insistence on the Goodman amendments and the invasion of the Lords' sovereignty over part of a government Bill.

After all, Mr Foot has not lost his Bill. He can get it before Easter if government managers know their job.

Parliamentary report, page 12
Leading article, page 15

Dr Coggan welcomes controversy over call

By Clifford Longley

Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Coggan, said yesterday that he welcomed the controversy that followed his call to the nation last month. It was, he told the General Synod of the Church of England, far too early to assess with any accuracy the response the call had produced.

A certain amount of controversy has been engendered, and that is all to the good, for one of the prime reasons for the call was to open up a debate on matters of concern," he said.

"The real search for the right answers, not to say the right questions, has been initiated."

Dr Coggan, giving his presidential address, said certain common factors had appeared from the 21,000 letters he had received at Lambeth Palace during the last four weeks.

"There is," he went on, "a deep longing on the part of a great section of our population—churchgoers, lapsed Christians, and others—for a healthier society than that which we now possess. There are repeated pleas for more direct teaching and for greater relevance in preaching on the part of church leaders."

There is genuine concern over what appears to many to be the church's 'worldliness' as shown, for example, in obsession over money, salary scales, episcopacy and clergy housing, etc. There is encouragement for the church's continuing entry into the social-political arena, provided that entry is seen not to be aligned with any one sector of society and not to be to the detriment of the church's primary task of worship and Christian proclamation, but rather as an outcome of it. In such methods as these I hear the cry, the longing, of the great number of thoughtful people in Britain today."

Dr Coggan, speaking of the need for more ordained ministers, said a young man who was considering whether to offer himself for ordination would be worried that he would have to give a large part of his time to the maintenance of buildings. He would also be worried whether the church could afford to pay him.

The General Synod should consider how to speed the disposal of unnecessary buildings, and should also promise candidates for ordination that they could expect to be paid "a decent but sacrificial wage."

Dr Coggan added a Conservative MP labelled Dr Stockwood the "red bishop". "And The Times, which has been cultivating the image of an imperturbable, serious newspaper, swallowed its restraint, without choking, and carried a leading article which could, to judge both by its tone and the underlying thought, be entitled 'Tally-ho, get him'."

But even in this article The Times could not do without the key word of its vocabulary—

"tolerance". The Times is perfectly ready to judge 'tolerance', and go on doing so for decades, the 'many evils of Western society'.

However, the newspaper is quite intolerant towards those who call for an end of the tolerance towards these evils and want to change society to achieve this. It becomes even more intolerant when such calls come from among the church hierarchy, that is, from people on whose unconditional and automatic support The Times has been counting.

"To sum it up briefly, The Times is not prepared to tolerate such freedom of the written word."

'Izvestia' writer takes 'The Times' to task

By Gabriel Ronay

The Soviet Government newspaper *Izvestia* has joined the debate started by the Bishop of Southwark's criticism of the Archbishop of Canterbury with an attack on *The Times* accusing it of carrying a leading article aimed at setting the hounds on Dr Stockwood.

Mr M. Andreyev, an *Izvestia* commentator, says that had Dr Stockwood's views in the *Morning Star* been written by an ordinary worker, farm labourer or a clerk the big Fleet Street newspapers would not have bared an eyelid. But because the remark "I have no intention in shoring up a society

which, because of its basic injustices, is at last crumbling in ruins," came from the Bishop of Southwark the British press was indignant.

In a letter to *The Times*, Mr Andreyev added a Conservative MP labelled Dr Stockwood the "red bishop". "And The Times, which has been cultivating the image of an imperturbable, serious newspaper, swallowed its restraint, without choking, and carried a leading article which could, to judge both by its tone and the underlying thought, be entitled 'Tally-ho, get him'."

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Publishers' statement on 'Express' dispute

The Newspaper Publishers Association

last night in a statement on the *Daily Express* dispute:

"A dispute arose between Beaverbrook Newspapers and its Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers members on October 15 in connection with a claim which the management believed could be in excess of the maximum sum payable under the terms of the anti-inflation policy."

"That belief was consequently confirmed by the Department of Employment."

"The dispute was referred to the standard joint disputes procedure under the existing agreement of employment and has been the subject of three hearings."

"The matter remains under-terminated and it was agreed by the dispute committee at its meeting yesterday (Tuesday) afternoon that it should be referred to a referee. It was also agreed that before this procedure should operate the services of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service should be sought, and if an early solution could be found."

"The dispute committee, as its final and firm recommendation, directed that no hostile action should be taken by either side."

"Early yesterday evening AUEW members ceased working, held an informal and unauthorized meeting, and re-

fused to say when the meeting would terminate or whether they would resume work. They deliberately interfered with machinery, including the removal of vital and valuable parts, rendering it impossible for any production to take place."

"Efforts were made to communicate with divisional and national officers of the union. Contact was not made until today. After fair and adequate warning of the consequences of further disruption and refusal to work according to contract, Beaverbrook management informed the engineers concerned that their actions constituted repudiation of their contracts and their employment was regarded as terminated with effect from 8.30 last night."

"During the course of today several of the former employees returned to the premises and engaged in additional acts of disruption. In spite of frequent and continuous efforts from the commencement of disruption until now it has not been possible to arrange a meeting with officials of the AUEW, but it remains the hope that this may still be possible during the course of this evening."

"The NPA council met to consider the matter at 4.30 pm today and remains available for a meeting at any time; communication from the union is awaited."

On that point the sub-committee disagrees with the Schools Council itself, which has favoured a more flexible approach to the pupils at whom the CEE should be aimed, and the regional examining boards that have run experimental CEE schemes.

The Standing Conference on University Entrance will broadly agree with the argument that A levels and the new CEE should be kept distinct, but the Standing Conference of CSE Boards and the National Union of Teachers' education committee would prefer some overlap in the ability of pupils taking part.

CEE: Proposals for a New Examination, (1976), or by post from Educational Ltd, North Way, Andover, Hampshire, (H16 5J).

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Plea for ban on legal aid rejected

By a Staff Reporter

Mr Sillkin, the Attorney General, yesterday rejected in a Commons written reply a request by Mr Jack Ashley, Labour MP for Stoke-on-Trent, that he should propose a ban on all legal representation before tribunals until legal aid is made available to applicants who cannot afford to be represented by a lawyer.

The Law Society, in a statement issued yesterday, objected to the manner in which complaints against solicitors in criminal legal aid cases are being made.

That follows allegations of malpractice and abuse of the criminal legal aid system by certain lawyers, together with detailed case histories, contained in a dossier, compiled by the Police Superintendents' Association and submitted by them to Sir Bernard Braine, Conservative MP for Essex, South-east, on Monday. Sir Bernard said he would be tabling "some probing questions" to the Attorney General.

Mr J. Bowron, the secretary-general of the Law Society, said accusations were made of solicitors manufacturing alibis, concocting defences and abusing the legal aid fund. If the police do so they should report the facts to the Law Society or stay silent.

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gham solicitor, said he had been instructed to appeal to the Department of Health and Social Security on behalf of Mr F. R. Houareau, a dentist who has been reprimanded eight times in the past two and a half years for unsatisfactory treatment.

Mr Houareau's name emerged yesterday although health service officials had repeatedly declined to give it, saying it could do disproportionate damage.

Mr Houareau, aged 48, practices at Bristol Road, Northfield, Birmingham, and is awaiting confirmation by a department that a further £3 should be withheld from his salary. That relates to a nine case, which has been investigated but not yet promulgated. He has already had £5 withheld for his past misdeeds and has been reprimanded for unsatisfactory treatment.

His wife, Mrs Ma Houareau, said her husband past difficulties had arisen from his need for glasses. She had recently had new ones. She said she had been told by a 3,000 health service patient and she thought his earnings were about half the average of a dentist in Birmingham, which is £8,400 a year.

On that point the sub-committee disagrees with the Schools Council itself, which has favoured a more flexible approach to the pupils at whom the CEE should be aimed, and the regional examining boards that have run experimental CEE schemes.

The Standing Conference on University Entrance will broadly agree with the argument that A levels and the new CEE should be kept distinct, but the Standing Conference of CSE Boards and the National Union of Teachers' education committee would prefer some overlap in the ability of pupils taking part.

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Stealing is common among boys book says

By a Staff Reporter

Stealing is widespread among school-age boys in London, according to a book, published yesterday, on the causal factors of juvenile theft. It was written by Dr William Belson, of a Survey Research Centre at a London School of Economic and Social Sciences.

Dr Belson based his findings on interviews of a random sample of 1,425 boys, aged between 13 and 16, living in inner London. The field work was carried out over a 12-month period 1967-68.

The study took six years to complete and was the most part of wider investigations of the Survey Research Centre under the direction of Dr Belson and financed by the Home Office. The total cost is £110,000.

Dr Belson's original report, which is similar to the one published book, was submitted to the Home Office in 1973. It reported received no publicity at the time, the Home Office yesterday, because it is not a research report but a summary of research.

But there is believed to be another reason for the delay. Dr Belson was not impressed by Belson's findings. It was believed that much of what he presented as new evidence was already well known or common sense.

All the 1,425 boys in a study admitted at least one stealing. The book says:

"The categories of theft included: by chance; travelling; public transport without paying the full fare; taking junk without full having asked for it; taking something for a dare for fun."

In four cases out of 10 of value of the goods or money involved was less than 10p (at 1967-68 values).

The boys interviewed were interviewed in their homes, and £1 fee and the choice of a recorder. Each boy was fetched from his home and taken to a centre in central London where he was given a meal.

Dr Belson's *Causal Factors of Juvenile Theft*, Harper & Row, £12.

Reprimanded dentist to enter appeal

By a Staff Reporter

Mr Blair Allison, a Birmingham solicitor, said he had been instructed to appeal to the Department of Health and Social Security on behalf of Mr F. R. Houareau, a dentist who has been reprimanded eight times in the past two and a half years for unsatisfactory treatment.

Mr Houareau's name emerged yesterday although health service officials had repeatedly declined to give it, saying it could do disproportionate damage.

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T/13/11/75

HOME NEWS

New British-Iceland talks in effort to avert another 'cod war'

By David Spanier

Diplomatic Correspondent

New talks to prevent another round in the "cod war" between Britain and Iceland are due to be held on Sunday in Reykjavik. The present agreement runs out at midnight tonight, which means that Iceland's 200-mile limit comes into force, in theory at least, before negotiations resume.

An announcement yesterday that Mr Roy Hattersley, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, will return home early from his trip to the United States, in order to meet Mr Agursson, the Icelandic Foreign Minister, will be taken by both sides in the dispute as a signal to keep calm.

It is assumed that Mr Hattersley would not decide to go to Reykjavik unless he had some reason to think that Mr Agursson intended to pursue the negotiations seriously. Until now, the Icelanders have maintained their habitual stonewall defence.

However, scientists from both sides have met in Reykjavik recently to discuss an Icelandic report on conservation of fish stocks. They are understood to have reached a fairly broad measure of agreement on the extent of conservation required, not the principle itself.

"We believe the British Government will now take a far more realistic position in reducing their annual catch," Icelandic sources said.

One figure being mentioned unofficially is a British total of 70,000 tons of cod a year, compared with the present annual catch of 130,000 tons. The experts report proposes a total catch of about 230,000 tons for all the countries fishing in Icelandic waters, a reduction of about one third.

Iceland has also been encouraged by good progress in talks now under way with West Germany. But the Germans, who were responsible for blocking tariff concessions to Iceland in the EEC go mainly for red fish, not cod.

Our Defence Correspondent writes: Three oil rig supply vessels have been chartered by the Ministry of Agriculture and moved to Lerwick, Shetland, in case of trouble when the agreement with Iceland ends at midnight tonight.

The unarmed ships, Star Sirius, Star Polaris and Star Aquarius, will stay in port on permanent charter to the Ministry and are likely to put to sea only in an emergency.

The plan is that they would perform the same sort of service to the fishing fleet off Iceland that several hastily chartered ocean-going tugs performed towards the end of the last cod war, when the British trawlers the oil rig vessels would try to place themselves between the gunboats and trawlers.

The trawlers will be accompanied only by their regular supply vessels, the *Hansa* and *Othello*, for the time being. The Royal Navy is keeping well away from the scene, although contingency plans exist for frigates to be introduced if the situation worsens.

A Staff Reporter writes from Leeds: The British Trawlers' Federation last night welcomed the news of resumed talks with Iceland. A representative said: "The fact that the talks resume on Sunday reinforces our view that there will not be any problems."

Fading hope of Prentice mediation
By Michael Hatfield
Political Staff

Mr Ronald Hayward, general secretary of the Labour Party, has almost given up hope of reconciling Mr Prentice, Minister for Overseas Development, and the Newham, North-east constituency management committee, which has disowned him.

Mr Hayward's role has been made difficult by comments made by Mr Prentice and members after it was announced on Monday night that an attempt at reconciliation would be made. Both parties made it known they were not prepared to compromise.

Mr Ian Mikardo, MP for Tower Hamlets, Bethnal Green and Bow and a left-wing member of the party's national executive, who proposed that Mr Hayward should attend the party's organisation committee yesterday that it had now become more or less impossible.

Mr Hayward is understood to share that view. The three other members who attended the organisation committee agreed with Mr Mikardo when he suggested that the attention of the national executive should be drawn to the comments that had been made and ask it to bear them in mind in deciding whether Mr Hayward should now attempt a reconciliation.

The committee agreed that no further action should be taken on a report about the activities of a Trotskyist group in the party, prepared by Mr Reginald Underhill, national organiser. But it is expected that the matter will be raised again at a full meeting of the national executive on November 26.

Sandringham not ready
The Queen's home, Sandringham House, will not be open to the public next year because renovation work is not yet complete, it was announced yesterday.

Tory whip resigns
Mr Richard Luce, Conservative MP for Shoreham, resigns today as an opposition whip to pursue more duties as a parliamentary adviser.

Guidelines on violent patients urged after killing of nurse in hospital
Nurses in mental hospitals need firmer guidelines for handling violent patients, says a report yesterday on the killing of a nurse by a patient. It is published by the South West Thames Regional Health Authority.

The report, of an independent committee of inquiry, says nurses need further explanation of their powers and where the restrictions lie in the use of force. It might be reasonable if the Department of Health would clarify the position of staff by statute or otherwise, it adds.

The committee, chaired by Mr Guy Willett, a barrister, investigated the killing of Daniel Carey, aged 52, a state enrolled nurse, at Tooting Bec Hospital, London, in August last year. He was stabbed four or five times in the chest by Samuel Hall, a schizophrenic patient, who was found unfit to plead to a murder charge at the Central Criminal Court and is now in Broadmoor.

Mr Hall was a voluntary patient and the report points out that such a patient can be compulsorily detained only if he is a physical danger to himself

Development report's proposals rejected

By John Young

Planning Reporter

The Government has rejected almost all the main recommendations of the report on development control by Mr George Dobry, QC.

In a written reply in the Commons yesterday Mr Silkin, Minister for Planning and Local Government, had conceded that the report named two specific recommendations which, he said, the weight of argument was in favour of rejecting. They were the proposed division of planning applications into major and minor, and the suggestion that demolition of all buildings should be subject to planning control.

But although the minister thanked Mr Dobry for providing "a unique insight into the detailed working of the system" and added that on many of his recommendations there was "almost complete unanimity of view", the detailed reply by Mr Crossland, Secretary of State for the Environment, was an unequivocal rebuff. As Mr Silkin pointed out, Mr Dobry had conceded that the existing system was fundamentally sound, and the gist of the Government's 27-page answer is that it sees no need for drastic changes.

Mr Crossland's statement says that although there would be definite benefits in statutory distinguishing between Class A (major) and Class B (minor) applications they are outweighed by the disadvantages. It would be impossible to draw "hard" and "fast" lines, and "major" and "minor" always mean the same as "controversial" and "uncontroversial".

Regarding Mr Dobry's suggestion of statutory time limits for settling applications, the Government considers that they would open the door for heavy and ill-considered decisions and for the precautionary refusals. Moreover the avoidance of delay is not wholly within the power of local authorities.

He says it is best left to local authorities to decide whether to co-opt members of amenity societies and other bodies or to planning committees, and that no purpose would be served by giving applicants a statutory right to consultation with planning authorities.

A federal planning aid scheme is not possible in present economic circumstances, Mr Crossland says. The suggestion that a fee should be charged to cover the administrative costs of deciding applications has been carefully considered, but he does not think the simple, fair and financially worthwhile scheme can be devised.

The Government does not propose to seek any changes to applicants' rights of appeal and rejects Mr Dobry's suggestions for more informal inquiries and a greater use of written representations.

By the end of this year, it is claimed, a backlog of applications should have been virtually eliminated. The time taken in reaching decisions has been drastically reduced and will be reduced still further next year.

Two points on which Mr Crossland does disagree with Mr Dobry are the need for a "case officer" responsible for the progress of each appeal, and for cost to be awarded more widely.

perfectly precise sense in which it will be the subject of the debate, namely, elected assemblies endowed with legislative power.

The difference between such assemblies and local authorities is clear and unambiguous. Local authorities, large or small, high or low, have no power themselves to make or alter the laws which they apply to their decisions only at the administrative level within the limits which the law, not made by them, lays down.

In the context of the devolution debate, the question which corresponds to the equation two and two make four is this: the establishment of one or more local parliaments have one of two consequences; either the conversion of the unitary parliamentary state into a federal state, with a written constitution which prescribes the respective spheres and powers of the federal parliament and the local parliaments, or alternatively the retention of the unitary state itself into two

or more independent states. No third possibility exists. The proposition that the establishment of elected assemblies means either separation or federation has several important consequences. One is that if the end result is to be federation, the powers and status of all the component parts of the federation must be identical.

In concrete terms, the idea that you can have a legislative assembly for Wales with one set of powers and a legislative assembly for Scotland with a more extensive set of powers, is nonsense and none the less so for having been passionately embraced at the outset by many performers in the forthcoming comedy.

Incidentally, was there not once upon a time a Central African Federation, set up by the British Parliament, which had just this inbuilt impossibility at the heart of it?

Another corollary was that the new federal state must be founded with a written constitution, which would have one certain consequence: it would replace the Crown in Parliament by a supreme court as the ultimate sovereign authority for wherever there is a written constitution, the true sovereignty in the state is that of paper, and its preservation is the ultimate human sovereignty—the judges who authoritatively interpret the law.

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In concrete terms, the idea that you can have a legislative assembly for Wales with one set of powers and a legislative assembly for Scotland with a more extensive set of powers, is nonsense and none the less so for having been passionately embraced at the outset by many performers in the forthcoming comedy.

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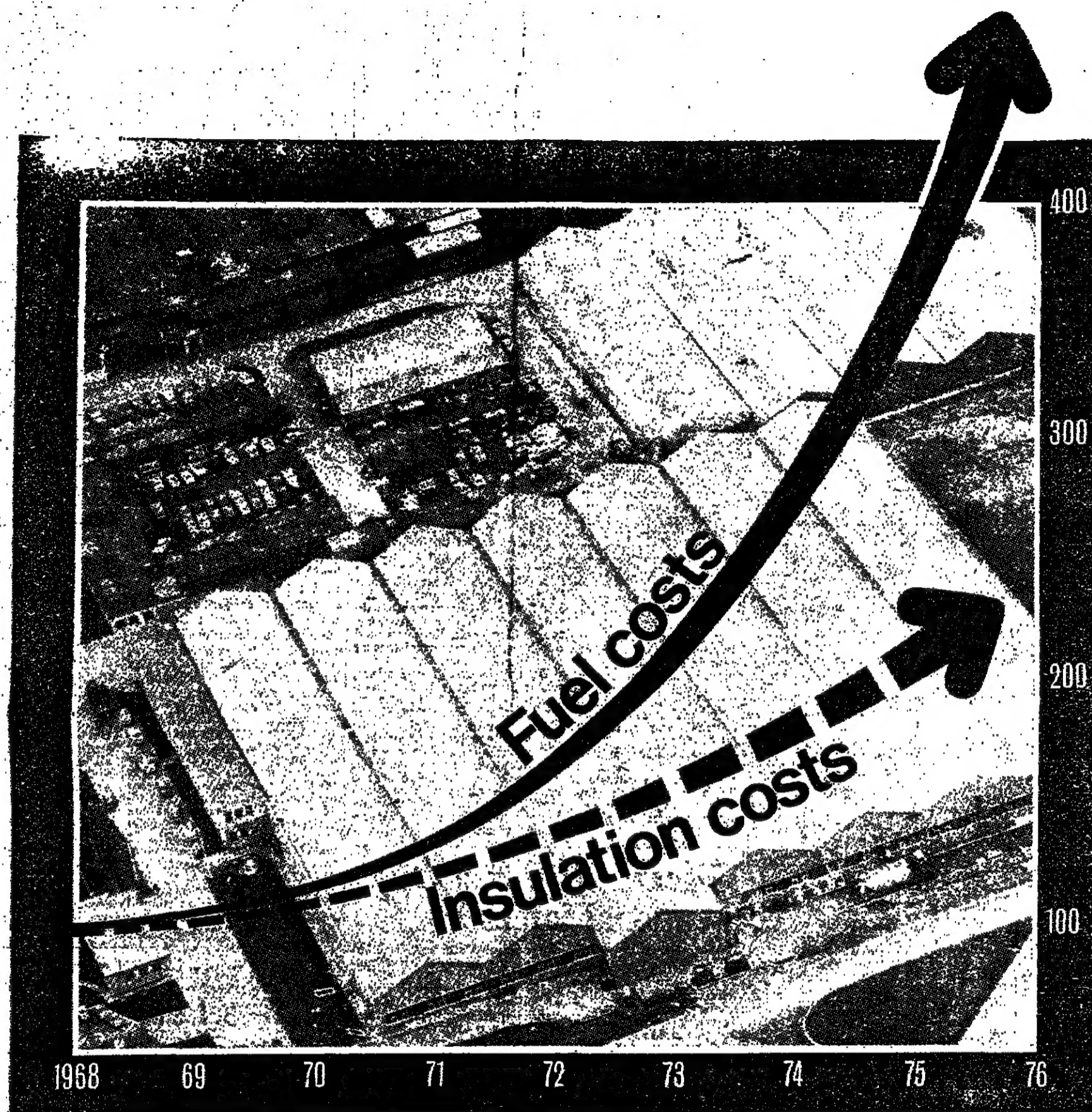
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Look what happened while your back was turned.



TRENDS IN AVERAGE FUEL AND INSULATION COSTS

Heat lost through your factory roof, process plant or pipework could now be costing you over twice what it did two years ago.

So if you haven't reviewed the payback periods for insulation in your firm recently, it's worth doing now. Because payback may now be a matter of months rather than years.

Even a job requiring relatively little capital outlay, such as pipe insulation, may yield a sizeable financial return to your firm. For example, lagging just three feet of exposed 4" diameter steam pipe can save the equivalent of a ton of coal a year.

SAVE IT

If you're debating whether to spend money on insulating an existing industrial building against loss of heat, remember that the Government has increased the first year tax allowance on insulation to 100%.

This allowance could halve the payback period. If your finance director has any doubts about whether your company qualifies for the allowance, he should get in touch with the Inspector of Taxes.

Hot air is an increasingly valuable commodity these days. So let's not talk it. Just Save It.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

WEST EUROPE



Senior women officers of the Nato forces, attending a conference in London, assembled yesterday with Mr William Rodgers, Minister of State for Defence. They represent about 120,000 women in uniform.

20,000 strikers on march in Lisbon

Lisbon, Nov. 12.—About 150 members of the Portuguese Constituent Assembly were trapped inside the parliament buildings here tonight by striking building workers. The workers, demonstrating in support of a pay claim, forced back deputies who tried to leave. In a building near by a delegation was meeting Admiral Pinheiro de Azevedo, the Prime Minister, to press their pay claim, despite a planned austerity programme by the Government. About 20,000 workers in safety helmets and overalls had marched to his office, shouting "Down with exploitation and starvation wages". The Prime Minister tried to address them from a balcony but was shouted down. Earlier tens of thousands of workers had marched through the streets of central Lisbon, forcing the Labour Ministry to close down for fear of violence. —Reuter and AP.

Agreement on Sahara said to be near

From Harry Debelius Madrid, Nov. 12.—Spain and Morocco appear to be close to agreement on the future of the Spanish Sahara, informed sources said here today. A Moroccan delegation consisting of three ministers, an under-secretary of state and another official, met a Mauritanian delegation and Spanish negotiators in Madrid this morning. There was no immediate official report on the progress of the talks, but informed sources claimed that a framework of agreement had already been reached before the new round of talks began. This information seemed to conflict with the remarks of Señor Leon Herrera, the Spanish Minister of Information and Tourism, who was quoted today by the semi-official news agency Cifra in Madrid as saying that Spain had promised King Hassan nothing whatsoever in exchange for his decision to call off the march by 350,000 Moroccan civilians into the Sahara.

The Minister was reported to have said that the visit by Señor Antonio Carrero Martínez, the Minister of the Presidency, to Agadir last weekend was intended to convince the Moroccan Government that the removal of the marchers from Spanish territory was "a condition which the Spanish Government considered indispensable in order to establish the climate of friendship and understanding which had been interrupted." Informed sources said that Spain seems to have reverted to its previous giveaway position, which was believed to be embodied in an offer made to King Hassan by Señor José Solís Ruiz, Spanish Minister of the National Movement. These sources claimed that Spain has finally opted for a Moroccan solution to the Sahara problem rather than an Algerian one, which it had previously seemed to favour. They said the change was not dictated merely by the desire to avoid conflict abroad at this critical moment but was also dictated by certain geo-political considerations.

Farm policy changes go to EEC summit

From David Cross Brussels, Nov. 12

After more than a year's scrutiny of the European Community's controversial agricultural policy, farm ministers have decided that its good points far outweigh any shortcomings. According to a new draft statement worked out during two days of painstaking deliberations by the ministers in Brussels this week, "The agricultural policy has attained a very high degree of integration" and "in many areas may be regarded as positive." This general conclusion, which will be transmitted to heads of government of the Nine for further consideration at their summit meeting in Rome next month, is a far cry from the aspirations of the West Germans and the British when the so-called "stockpiling" of the policy was launched in October, 1974. At that time both countries hoped the exercise would emphasize the need for a thorough overhaul of the common agricultural policy.

The draft statement, which must also be discussed at a joint session of agriculture and foreign ministers before the summit, highlights four particularly successful areas: farm productivity and trade have increased; farmers' incomes have been protected; food prices have remained stable; and security of supplies has been maintained in spite of worldwide shortages. Even where the ministers concede that difficulties do exist, "difficulties have been solved, for example—these are blamed partly on the failure of other Community policies, such as economic and monetary union and social programmes." In an enterprise of such magnitude, "difficulties have inevitably arisen," the statement comments blandly. Nevertheless, under pressure mainly from the West Germans and the British, the ministers acknowledge that some improvements to the policy are required to control surpluses and trim costs.

The British, in particular, take comfort from references in the document of the need to take account of the interests of consumers and of the modern efficient farm in elaborating future agricultural trends. They are also gratified that in the milk and beef sectors, there is a move to reduce surpluses, and in the cereals sector to improve price relationships between grain used for animal and human consumption. The insistence of the West Germans, the statement makes it clear that there are at least two schools of thought on the way in which these generally agreed objectives should be achieved: while the French and the Irish favour minor modifications to existing market mechanisms, the reformist West Germans and British would prefer some major adjustments and the introduction of new measures. In the dairy sector, for example, the Conservatives think that an excessive build-up of milk can be avoided by better market management and improved sales promotion; the Radicals argue, however, that additional measures are required to stabilize production.

The introduction of differences of opinion—which were absent from an earlier version of the stockpiling document drawn up by agricultural officials of the Nine—has raised speculation that Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, may want his fellow heads of government to do more than simply rubber-stamp the policy guidelines worked out by agriculture ministers at next month's summit. In any event, the Italians, who applied the policy with great reluctance, have made it clear that Signor Moro, their Prime Minister, will not feel constrained to limit his remarks to the contents of the document at the summit. They are dissatisfied that the latest policy statement conceals too much on the problems of the richer north European farmer.

Call to speed up Greece's membership of Community

From Michael Hornsby Luxembourg, Nov. 12

The European Parliament today adopted a motion calling on the Council of Ministers and the European Commission to speed up consideration of Greece's application for membership of the European Community. Greece lodged its application in June. Speakers of all political groups and nationalities welcomed the Greek application, but members of the Conservative group doubted whether an early entry of Greece into the EEC was practicable because of the formidable political and economic troubles which needed to be surmounted. Mr John Corrie and Lord

Eestell, two British Conservatives, argued that it would be doing Greece a disservice to raise false hopes of an early accession to the Community. Mr Corrie believed that the EEC needed more time to sort out its own difficulties before it could consider further enlargement. Mr Hugh Dykes, another British Conservative, spoke of the intractable industrial and agricultural problems which stood in the way of Greek membership. If Greece was exposed in its present state of development to the "chill winds" of EEC competition, its industry would be annihilated, he claimed. Parliamentary report, page 12

In brief

Last Pasolini film banned

Rome, Nov. 12.—Pier Paolo Pasolini's last film, *Salo* or *120 Days of Sodom*, completed shortly before he was murdered this month, has been banned in its entirety by the government censorship board because of its "abhorrent and repugnant sexual perversion." The decision is not expected to affect the film's showing at the Paris film festival later this month.

Queen Mother's visit

The Hague, Nov. 12.—Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother arrived here today for a short visit to Holland. She is to attend a service of thanksgiving and rededication to celebrate the reopening of the English Reformed Church in Amsterdam tomorrow.

Kidnap case arrests

Berlin, Nov. 12.—The West Berlin police arrested two women, aged 19 and 36, today, who are suspected of involvement in the kidnapping of Herr Peter Lorenz, the chairman of the Berlin Christian Democratic Union, earlier this year.

Trawlers block port

Copenhagen, Nov. 12.—About 50 trawlers from the Danish North Sea fishing fleet blocked Esbjerg harbour entrance for several hours today in protest against a government ban on fishing herring and cod until the end of the year.

Voice of an arsonist

Geneva, Nov. 12.—Swiss Radio today broadcast a tape of what police described as the "vaguely English" voice of a man believed responsible for starting fires in department stores in the Lake Geneva area which did £100 worth of damage.

Fatal shooting

Lynchburg, Virginia, Nov. 12.—Mrs Alexandra Bruce Michelides, aged 29, the daughter of Mr David Bruce, permanent United States representative to Nato in Brussels, has died here after shooting herself in the head.

Death on holiday

Ibiza, Nov. 12.—Mr George Joseph Roberts, aged 62, and his wife aged 72, from Wolverhampton, who were on holiday here, have died after being hit by a car.

Fire deaths arrest

Copenhagen, Nov. 12.—A man aged 28 was arrested here today on charges of starting a fire that killed nine people in an apartment building last night and injured five.

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M Giscard aims at strong conventional forces

From Charles Hargrove Paris, Nov. 12

President Giscard d'Estaing confirmed today that his defence policy, with two important adjustments, was in line with the principles inherited from his two predecessors, based on the possession of an independent nuclear deterrent. But he insisted on the need for a reinforcement of conventional forces and did not exclude the possibility of a European defence organization in the next decade, on condition that there was already a European political authority in existence. These points were made by the President in two interviews, one with *Le Figaro* and the other on television. The President was at pains to dispel fears expressed by Gaullist deputies during the recent parliamentary debate on military estimates that his defence policy was straying from the inherited principles; and that the priority given to

the nuclear deterrent had led to a dangerous run-down of conventional forces. He said that he was in favour of an increased effort in conventional armaments and defence expenditure. He dismissed the suggestion that he was attempting to renege France into Nato, and reiterated that there could be no question of France taking part either in the Geneva disarmament conference or in the Vienna conference on force reductions.

"It goes without saying that in view of the disproportion between our forces and those of the two superpowers we must have an idea of agreeing to a ceiling of French nuclear force," he insisted. His review of the French defence situation had led him to the conclusion that France had made a remarkable effort in nuclear matters. But the needs of the army, navy and air force had been undermined by the inadequacy and aging of conventional weapons.

Mr Carey paused for a moment, and then replied: "You've said it very well." The surge of optimism comes after a visit to Washington yesterday by senior officials of the state, to meet with Mr William Simon, the Secretary of the Treasury, and Dr Arthur Burns, the chairman of the Federal Reserve Board. They explained the package of measures that has been worked out in the past few days as a sign that the state is making serious efforts to solve the crisis.

For once, New York city's problems are not the most immediate. There is a danger that the state housing finance agency might default and so might Yonkers, the city just north of New York city.

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Wall Street: Hopes of a New York City rescue helped to boost stocks. The Dow Jones industrial average gained 13.70 points to close at 852.25.

OVERSEAS

Marxist regime beats off attack on Luanda by rival army

Luanda, Nov. 12.—The two-day old Marxist Government in Luanda today beat off a rival army attempting to mortar its way into the Angolan capital to establish its own regime.

The Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) has declared the "People's Republic of Angola" and named its leader, Dr Agostinho Neto, President, following the end of Portuguese rule on Monday.

Shelling at Quifangondo, 12 miles north of the capital, started today as the rival National Front for the Liberation of Angola (FNLA), attempted to burst into the city across the Bengo river. The attack was repulsed, MPLA military sources said.

Mozambique is to send troops to help the MPLA, well-placed Mozambique sources said in Luanda today. The initial detachment will be 250 veterans of the war which the Mozambique guerrilla movement Frelimo fought against Portuguese rule.

The MPLA is already being helped by Cuba, and its forces are being trained by the FNLA and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA).

The People's Republic declared by the MPLA in Luanda is not recognized by the United Nations, which has proclaimed a separate "People's Democratic Republic" based in Huambo (Nova Lisboa) in the Central Highlands.

Mozambique supported the MPLA in its resistance to last month's efforts by Portugal and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) to persuade the three Angolan groups to form a joint government of national unity before independence.

Fighting was also reported today on the southern front, in an area near the main Angolan port of Lobito, captured by the FNLA.

President Amin of Uganda has had no response from the Soviet Union to his efforts to retract his earlier allegations which led the Soviet Union to suspend diplomatic relations with Uganda yesterday and order the staff of the Ugandan Embassy in Moscow to leave.

After accusing Mr A. Zakharov, the Soviet Ambassador, of trying to dictate to Uganda, he said that the Soviet-backed Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA), instead of maintaining neutrality towards the three Angolan nationalist movements, President Amin suggested that the ambassador might have been suffering from an overdose of vodka.

In view of this, he suggested that the Soviet Union should send a more sympathetic ambassador to replace Mr Zakharov, whose immediate withdrawal he had demanded.

The Soviet Embassy in Kampala has now been closed, and arrangements are understood to be under way to remove the several hundred Soviet experts who have been working with the Uganda armed forces and in other key jobs.

In a statement today, President Amin denied suggestions that his quarrel with the Soviet Union arose from disputes about the supply of Soviet arms and "payment" for them by Uganda. He insisted that it arose only from Mr Zakharov's alleged attempt to "dictate" to Uganda on its policy towards Angola.

He sent letters to President Ford, Chairman Mao and Mr Wilson expressing appreciation for their good wishes and stands on Angola, which, he said, were based on a correct assessment of the situation there. Referring to the break with the Soviet Union, he said his action was taken in the interest of Africa.

He said that he was in favour of an increased effort in conventional armaments and defence expenditure. He dismissed the suggestion that he was attempting to renege France into Nato, and reiterated that there could be no question of France taking part either in the Geneva disarmament conference or in the Vienna conference on force reductions.

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Israel calls conference in response to Zionism vote

From Eric Marsden Jerusalem, Nov. 12

Israel is appealing to world Jewry to rally behind it in the fight against the United Nations General Assembly's attack on Zionism as a form of racism. The Government and Jewish Agency decided today to call a conference of 100 world Jewish leaders in Jerusalem at the end of this month, coinciding with the anniversary of the Balfour Declaration on November 28.

Invitations are being sent out by Mr Menachem Begin, Minister, and by Mr Arye Dolev, acting chairman of the agency. The conference will focus on "the state of Israel as the Jewish ideal". There will also be a drive for renewed emigration to Israel, especially from Western countries.

Protests against the General Assembly vote continued here today. Youths demonstrated outside United Nations headquarters, and in the schools teachers have declared a "Zionism week" and are giving special lessons on Zionist history and philosophy. United Nations Street in Jerusalem has been renamed Zionism Street. The furious reaction here to the United Nations vote is unrelenting.

Dr Kissinger, the Secretary of State, said in Pittsburgh today that America "would have to consider the vote on an individual basis before deciding what specific action we will take towards various countries." There is no doubt that Egypt's hopes of getting \$750m (£360m) in aid out of Congress, and approval to buy two nuclear reactors, are seriously hurt by the vote. Both Houses of Congress have now voted to re-examine Egypt's position in the United Nations.

New York: Mr Gaston Thorn, the General Assembly's current President and Prime Minister of Luxembourg, joined the critics of the resolution. Speaking in his capacity as Luxembourgian, he said that the climate of conciliation of the United Nations had been "destroyed" by the vote.

London: Mr Gideon Rafael, Israel's Ambassador, described the vote as "the Pearl Harbour of the United Nations". The world body had scuttled its own charter and principles, he said, and November 11, 1975, would be remembered "as a day of infamy and one on which a grievous blow was administered to the moral standards of civilized humankind".

Rome: Libya has demanded the expulsion of the United States and "its pet state of Israel" from the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). Mr Muammar Gaddafi, the Libyan Minister of Agriculture, told the FAO's conference here that "no place should be given among us to colonialist, imperialist, fascist and racist states".

Mr Tabou asked: "Have we the right to provide room within the membership of our organization for countries which feed the peoples and nations of our world with fatal bullets and bombs and impose their control and domination over such peoples and nations?" Accusations analysed, page 14

He said that he was in favour of an increased effort in conventional armaments and defence expenditure. He dismissed the suggestion that he was attempting to renege France into Nato, and reiterated that there could be no question of France taking part either in the Geneva disarmament conference or in the Vienna conference on force reductions.

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25 years' jail for killer in Israel consulate siege

Johannesburg, Nov. 12.—David Protter, aged 26, a former security guard at the Israel Consulate in Johannesburg, was convicted today of murdering an Israeli official during a day-long consulate siege last April. He was jailed for 25 years.

His brother Charles, an accomplice in the siege, was jailed for 30 months. The sentences imposed on David Protter, who faced 67 charges, totalled 59 years. But Judge Petrus Gilié said after a Supreme Court trial, which lasted about four weeks, that some of the sentences would run concurrently. The judge said there were extenuating circumstances that ruled out the death sentence.

David Protter was also convicted on 45 charges of assault with intent to murder, 13 charges of kidnapping and three charges under South Africa's arms and ammunition laws. Apart from the murdered security official, 45 people were injured and 18 were held hostage during the consulate siege.

At a preliminary hearing, David Protter had claimed sole responsibility for the violent occupation of the consulate. The state prosecutor described him as a man who was determined to be in the limelight and thought he was an expert on security.

His lawyer said he had designed an exercise to test the consulate's security, which he believed to be inadequate. During the trial he said he had been in the Israel and South African armies. —Reuter.

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World recovery 'already begun'

From Dan van der Vat Mannheim, Nov. 12

The worst of the world economic recession is over and recovery has already begun, Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, told the Social Democratic Party congress here today.

In a two-hour review of the political situation at home and abroad, the Chancellor presented delegates with a limp analysis of the causes and consequences of the recession.

positive world economic event of recent years," he stated.

The view that only international cooperation could bring stabilization was growing and much had already been done. "All these efforts have led to the point that world trade and world economic activity, as almost all international experts confirm, have passed the lowest point and are slowly recovering."

West Germany would be importing a lot more in the latter half of this year than last and thus helping the recovery of other countries. The Government had pumped £5,000m into the economy in the past 12

months. Already demand for capital goods was rising sharply and industry was getting more orders.

The majority of critics said West Germany had done too much, rather than too little, to revive its economy by going into deficit to the extent of 7 per cent of its gross national product. But to ensure recovery, the federal budget deficit would have to be as high as, at nearly £8,000m, next year as it had been in 1975.

The most important task for next year was to bring down unemployment. More investment was the only way to do it, Herr Schmidt said.

Wallace announces that he will run for the presidency

By Brock Brown
Nov 12

George Wallace, the Governor of Alabama, threw the ring today as for the presidency.

He is his third serious bid before he is started as a Democrat. He is now the possibility of a third bid if the Democratic Party in New York next

today's announcement is a surprise. Mr. Wallace has been a candidate since he was 17 for it by his decision to run in 1964.

He has no hard political philosophy, which he could demand that the party accept.

He told a crowd in Montgomery, Alabama, when he announced his official candidacy this morning, that he was running for the presidency, and would win. If he fails, he could always run for the Senate in 1978, when Senator John Sparkman of Alabama is expected to retire at the age of 79.

ident Ford's China visit
announced by White House

Nov 12

House has now been confirmed by the White House.

Mr. Ford's visit to China is the second in a series of visits to the People's Republic of China.

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Miss Fromme follows her trial on TV

The defence admits a pistol was waved but intent to kill the President has yet to be proved

From Fred Emery
Sacramento, California, Nov 12

Without a word, Miss Fromme, 26, was taken from the courtroom in Sacramento, back to her cell, rejecting the judge's offer to let her be present at her trial if she will behave.

But, oddly, without Miss Fromme both the trial and her defence are far from dead. Instead it is the prosecution that is visibly labouring. They have to prove more than the waving of a loaded pistol at President Ford on September 5, which Miss Fromme admits.

What the prosecution must prove is that Miss Fromme "did knowingly and wilfully attempt to kill Gerald R. Ford" as the charge runs. For that it must prove intent to kill, and after a dozen witnesses it is little nearer to it.

The proceedings appear somewhat unsettling for all. Charles Manson, convicted for the 1969 "bloodbath murders" of Sharon Tate and at least six others, is never far from mention.

Miss Fromme, an insistent member of the "murderous family" which she invokes each time she appears, and after being silenced by Judge Thomas McBride, her fellow Mansonite, Miss Sandra Goodie, waits in the wings.

What Miss Goodie says, outside the court is that she never tried to kill Mr. Ford.

Delhi constitution ruling review refused

Nov 12—The Indian Supreme Court today rejected a Government request for a review of an important 1973 judgment which limited Parliament's powers to amend the constitution.

Mr Justice A. N. Ray, the Chief Justice, said that the bench of 13 judges, formed three weeks ago to reconsider the case, had been "dissolved".

The announcement came on the third day of a hearing on the Government's request. Mr M. P. Fakhriwala, a leading

constitutional lawyer, had accused the Government of acting with "indecent haste" in seeking a review of what he called the most momentous verdict handed down by an Indian court only two years after it had been given.

The 13 judges ruled in April, 1973, by a majority of seven to six, that Parliament, though supreme, could not alter the basic structure of India's democratic and republican constitution. Some 300 petitions based on the judgment, which also included important rulings on

fundamental rights, are pending before the Supreme Court.

The rebuff to the Government came five days after the Supreme Court overturned the conviction of Mr. Gandhi, the Prime Minister, for electoral malpractices by upholding the legality of retroactive legislation.

Parliament passed in August to rewrite the election laws in Mr. Gandhi's favour.

The court ruled that the rewriting of election laws, even retroactively, was within Parliament's jurisdiction. — Reuter

Turks reject UN
Cyprus move

Ankara, Nov 12—Turkey tonight rejected a United Nations draft resolution calling for the withdrawal of foreign troops from Cyprus, and insisted that Turkish Cypriots be represented at the world body.

Mr Caglayangil, the Foreign Minister, said that any discussions without the Turkish Cypriots would jeopardize the resumption of negotiations, which have been deadlocked since September. He accused the Greek Cypriots of using the General Assembly debate for their own ends. — Reuter.

Britain winning support for
Belize self-determination

By David Spenser
Diplomatic Correspondent

It is too soon to report a famous victory in Belize; indeed not a shot has been fired. But the situation is looking brighter after the sudden move of British troops there a week ago.

On the diplomatic front, the argument is going Britain's way. Fifty-five countries support a United Nations resolution recognising the right of Belize to self-determination and independence, and calling for early negotiations between Britain and Guatemala. Only 12 countries have taken the side of Guatemala.

A vote is expected in the General Assembly early next week, and if the resolution is carried by a good majority, it will strengthen Britain's position greatly.

Bangladesh call
for unity
by Army leader

Dacca, Nov 12—Major-General Ziaur Rahman, Bangladesh Army Chief of Staff, has given a warning that "some self-seekers are out to create a sense of frustration and insecurity among the masses".

In a broadcast last night, he appealed for unity among the people and members of the Armed Forces. He said the Government was "non-political, neutral and non-partisan" and promised that martial law would not be continued beyond the time needed.

A martial law court in Dacca has jailed a former member of the Bangladesh Parliament and four accomplices for life for selling cotton yarn on the black market. — AP and Reuter.

Mr Narayan is
released
on parole

From Our Correspondent
Delhi, Nov 12

Mr Jayaprakash Narayan, the Indian opposition leader, was released today on parole.

The parole is a conditional release, generally on grounds of health. A prisoner returns to custody after regaining health, and during the parole he undertakes to refrain from participating in any political activity. Mr Narayan, who is 73, was detained on June 26 when the state of emergency was declared in India.

France to mediate in Lebanon conflict

Beirut, Nov 12—The Lebanese Government has agreed to a French diplomatic initiative aimed at safeguarding the independence, sovereignty and unity of Lebanon, the Cabinet announced here tonight.

The chief mediator in this latest effort to end Lebanon's civil war between Muslims and Christians will be M. Maurice Couve de Murville, France's former Prime Minister and now chairman of the National Assembly's foreign committee, according to high-level sources in Paris.

The sources said that President Giscard d'Estaing had repeated a suggestion he made last month that France, a traditional friend of Lebanon, should try to help in finding a solution.

M. Couve de Murville is familiar with the Middle East, where he served in the 1950s as Ambassador to Egypt. He is expected to hold talks with all the protagonists in the political strife and formulate suggestions, leaving the legal, diplomatic and public service distribution ratio of 6:5 in the Christians' favour is, in Phalangist eyes, a safeguard for the Christian community which bears no relation to the sectarian balance in the country.

With the demand for reforms, the unshakable platform of both the Muslims and the left, the room for manoeuvre for both sides is very narrow indeed. Mr Rashid Karami, the fireless Prime Minister who remains a rare symbol of unity amid national disintegration, is anxious to get some sort of dialogue going.

However, the growing despair felt by most was reflected in a comment on partition in Al Anfal, the Phalangist organ: "If this is what the people want we can only accept it and pray to God it will work."

After the 1958 civil war both Christians and Muslims tended to drift to the safety of their own communities and the latest conflict has drawn in Beirut something approaching the "Green Line" that separates the Greek and Turkish Cypriots in Nicosia. Whatever the politicians say, the de facto partition now exists is something that will be difficult, if not impossible, to undo.

On the military front today, a wave of kidnappings and scattered gunfire kept tension high in Beirut, though the 11,000 old ceasefire seemed to be holding for the most part. — Agence France-Presse and CFI.

Paul Martin writes from Beirut: So deep are the wounds caused by the seven-month conflict that the unthinkable is now being discussed—partition.

Although both sides declare public opposition to such a drastic measure, the right-wing Christian Phalangists have made it all too clear that they would favour partition to anything that would upset the present power distribution in the

Although Mr Pierre Gemayel, the Phalangist leader, has declared his willingness to dis-

Bodies of TV men killed in Timor are handed over

Jakarta, Nov 12—The Australian Embassy today received the remains and belongings of five Australian television journalists who were killed in Portuguese Timor more than a month ago.

A senior Indonesian official handed over a letter from the Rajah of Asashe, Portuguese Timor, confirming that the bodies of four of the journalists had been found in a burnt-out house in the town of Balibo.

The house was being used by left-wing Fretilin troops when the town was captured by pro-Indonesian forces last month. The letter said a fifth body was found later outside the town, and had been burnt for health reasons.

Mr Adam Malik, the Indonesian Foreign Minister, said today that the change of Government in Australia would not affect Australian policy on Portuguese Timor.

President Suharto was given a report on the dismissal of Mr Whitlam as Prime Minister, by Mr Her Tasning, the Indonesian Ambassador to Canberra, who described it as an "Australian internal affair". He also complained that the Australian press had given one-sided reports in favour of the revolutionary Fretilin forces.

"They did not know the real situation in Portuguese Timor," he said. "They supported only the struggle for independence of the Timorese. Because Fretilin claimed it had full control in the area, they supported Fretilin, disregarding the fact that Fretilin's claim was a lie."

Mr Hena Sutrisna, spokesman for the Foreign Ministry, denied that Indonesian had protested against reports that a Royal Australian Air Force Neptune reconnaissance aircraft had taken unauthorized photographs of Timor while in Indonesian air space.

Mr Marcus Diduk, the Regent of Belu, in Indonesian Timor, said reporters today that Indonesia had given military training to 702 refugees who returned to Betulense in Portuguese Timor early this month. About 300 more refugees would be given similar training. — Reuter, AP.



M. Couve de Murville: Familiar with problems of the Middle East.



Cook Freeze Catering—food for thought

Increasing costs, shortage of skilled staff and demand for meals at unusual times are forcing caterers to look for alternatives to traditional preparation and cooking methods. The need is pressing where low priced meals in large numbers are concerned.

The Cook Freeze system

Aware of this requirement, The Electricity Council carried out extensive research into catering techniques within one of its own staff restaurant operations, leading to the development of 'Cook Freeze' as it is today. It is a system of preparing and cooking quality food in economic quantities in

a central production kitchen, retaining it in a state of 'suspended freshness' by rapid freezing and freezer storage and serving it when required. The Cook Freeze system consists of three main areas of activity. The first, preparation and cooking and the second, quick freezing and bulk storage, take place at the same location. The third, food reheating and presenting is carried out at the catering establishment itself, where the finished meal is served to the customer.

Cook Freeze in action

Several applications of the Cook Freeze system in the UK have been closely

monitored to establish its potential. Substantial overall savings on cost per meal have been achieved through the more efficient use of skilled labour and space resources. Consumers are satisfied because the quality of meals is controlled at a high level and a varied menu can be provided.

Finally, equipment needs can be more critically assessed than with traditional catering operations, optimum use can be made of the equipment and, consequently, capital employed to best advantage.

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SPORT

Football

Fifty thousand brave souls in vain search for old glory

By Geoffrey Green
Football Correspondent
Tottenham 0 West Ham 0

The score line tells most of the story and now Tottenham Hotspur and West Ham United, still locked in a fourth round tie of the Football League Cup, must replay at Upton Park on Monday week for a place in the quarter-final round. Here are the last representatives of London, Tottenham have taken this trophy, West Ham never. Yet West Ham are now perched high at the top of the first division and have also won a place in the quarter-final round of the Cup Winners' Cup. Both sides—especially Spurs—were unable to rise above the emotion or even the mediocrity, though there were moments before half time when West Ham with a bit of thought and creativity, threatened to break the deadlock.

On a bitterly cold night all this activity was apparently sufficient to keep near 20,000 crowd hard-pressed, probably in an effort to keep their circulation going. If this gathering was almost a throw-back to the old days of the Football League Cup, the football itself certainly was not. Indeed most of one's thoughts on the night were far away at Oxford, wondering what was happening between Portugal and Czechoslovakia and whether England's last chance of a place in the last eight of the European championship were going down the drain.

What little imagination and inventiveness there was belatedly came in the first half when Tottenham's Alan Taylor nearly found the net, but the first half ended with a move between himself, Robinson, Paddon and Brookings; the first half belonged to West Ham.

Twice inside the opening half-hour Alan Taylor nearly found the net, but the first half ended with a move between himself, Robinson, Paddon and Brookings; the first half belonged to West Ham.

Mansfield lift depression by happy coincidence

By Norman Fox
Mansfield 1 Wolverhampton 0

Some 46 years ago when Mansfield Town were not members of the Football League, they gained recognition by beating Wolverhampton Wanderers at Molineux in the third round of the FA Cup. Since then they have not exactly packed their cupboards with silverware and today they are bottom of the third division. Obviously, then, their days of glory are widely spaced and so the fact that last night they reached the last eight of the Football League Cup by again beating Wolves at Field Mill was a long-awaited coincidence, though one they thoroughly deserved.

If Cup football is supposed to be the great leveller, then depression, poor form and the simple frustration of inability to take chances are problems that can be solved by teams of any station. Wolves, of the first division, have virtually nothing to play for, apart from a team who had lost all but one of their previous 12 third division games, a situation that was easily understood in a manner in which Mansfield missed half a dozen clear opportunities before succeeding with one after 31 minutes.

In simple terms of possession and understanding Mansfield were the superior team, as they had against Coventry City in the previous round—another example of the standards of the first division clubs, or at least the amount of effort they are prepared to put into this competition.

Mansfield were not as poor as their league position suggested, but not as good as Wolves made them appear. They were particularly difficult as the town was hardly aflame with expectation. Indeed, Mansfield squandered more chances than Wolves created moves.

Mansfield's manager, David Smith, had assured us all before the game that his team had often



Theart (left) scores Manchester City's first goal last night.

Overwhelming defeat is summed up in the first 35 seconds

By Gerald Sinstadt
Man City 4 Middlesbrough 0

A meeting of the two halves of Manchester's football often resembles a war of attrition. Last night, in the fourth round of the Football League Cup, the overwhelming defeat evoked thoughts of the charge of the Light Brigade. Unhappily to defend, the young red gallants swept forward in waves after waves of attack and were picked off with cool and deliberate ease.

A goal up in the first minutes, three in front at the interval. City were able to abort the early loss of Bell, their England midfielder player, without undue concern. Where United were fast and frantic, City found pace from incisive, accurate passing and devastating short bursts of acceleration.

The quartet of the example with some splendid running and, in the second half, Barnes was encouraged to follow his example. Both benefited from the usual efficiency of Ronie to take the ball in the middle and from the total absorption of Hartford, tackling, passing and shooting like a man with a point to prove.

The first 35 minutes were the whole game in microcosm. Almost from the kick-off Manchester City were awarded a free kick wide on the left. As the ball was driven into the penalty area Watson's

header, Rivie's header and Bell's shot were blocked in turn before Theart blasted home from short range.

Three minutes later Bell was prostrate in one penalty area. Pearson in the other, neither incident produced a free kick but City lost the services of Bell, who was taken off on a stretcher suffering from a badly torn muscle at the back of the thigh.

The position from the club doctor was that Bell was certain to miss England's critical European championship match in Portugal next week. City brought on Booth, their substitute, essentially a central defender but more recently a goal-scoring centre forward, he nevertheless took on a midfield role here but not as a defender, born but effectively enough.

Before the quarter hour, City increased their lead. Gates, a forward, began the move with an unforced yard pass to the wing. Donachie's centre found space to take a shot, which was blocked by Hartford. United's goalkeeper was again exposed by an error in the centre circle by Buchanan, Tunn, left with the ball at his feet and Houston taking off without cover, ran unchal-

lenged to the edge of the penalty area and his shot from 15 yards went under Rod's bar.

Manchester United must yet be given credit for attempting to fight back. In the first half Campbell and Pearson both shot goals cleared off the line. Then in quick succession Barnes and Pearson were cleared by Hartford and by a brilliant save by Corrigan.

The City goalkeeper also tried to turn aside a fierce free kick by Houston and in the second half did well to turn over a shot that came in from a corner. Donachie's pass found Barnes on the left touchline. Where often he had headed to over-embroider, the young winger this time centred quickly and Koye struck the ball past Rods on the volley.

The night sky was filled with City jubilation. For United's supporters there was a journey home with much food for reflection. If United are to capitalize on their league success, they must learn to think hard about the lessons they learned from their neighbours.

Yesterday's results
League Cup: Fourth round
Man City 4 Middlesbrough 0
Middlesbrough 0 West Ham 0
Tottenham 0 West Ham 0
Rapidly November 24

Second division
Oxford 0 West Brom 1
Sheff Wed 0 Sheff 1

Scottish Premier division
Aberdeen 1 Celtic 1
Dundee 0 Rangers 1
Dundee 0 Rangers 1

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Group 1
USSR 1, Switzerland 0
USSR 1, Switzerland 0
USSR 1, Switzerland 0

Russia in quarter-final

Kiev, Nov 12.—The Soviet Union tonight defeated Switzerland 4-1 to win Group 1 in the European Championship and qualify for the quarter-final round.

The Soviet team, except for defender Lovchev, of Spartak Moscow, was made up of young players. They attacked from the start and scored their victory with two quick goals. Konkov hit a hard shot from long range in the 15th minute. Konkov hit a hard shot from long range in the 15th minute. Konkov hit a hard shot from long range in the 15th minute.

Czechoslovakia draw

Czechoslovakia drew 1-1 with Portugal in Oporto last night and lost to England 2-1 in the European Championship. They scored in the twenty minute through Ondrus. None equalized in the next 80 minutes. The Czechs lost in the next 80 minutes. The Czechs lost in the next 80 minutes.

Bowles doubtful for Portugal game

Stan Bowles is doubtful for Queen's Park Rangers' visit to Ipswich on Saturday and England's European championship match in Portugal next Wednesday. Bowles had treatment at Loftus Road yesterday. He has a bruised knee in addition to the thigh muscle he strained against Newcastle United.

Motor racing

Gulf Oil to withdraw from racing

Gulf Oil Company are withdrawing from motor racing. The company have been continuously engaged in the sport for nine years and have achieved considerable success.

Rugby Union

An Australian effort under lights which lacked poise and control

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent
Midland Cities (E) 11, Australians 8

Midland Counties (East) in their time-though not notably on recent tours here—have usually given overseas visitors a tough time of it, and they came up to the mark again at Leicester last evening with a well deserved victory by a penalty goal and two tries to two tries. It was in many ways a thoroughgoing and disappointing night for the Australians, who looked disorganized and uneasy in their first experience of a match under floodlights in England. But far more do detract from the Counties' staunch and well disciplined virtues.

They fashioned two fine scores, contained, through their loose men, of whom Ager and Phillips were outstandingly hard and effective workers, the threat of Loane and company at close quarters, like heroes. Here, goal-kicking apart, never put a foot wrong at full back. George used his legs well to keep the opposition at arm's length in the second period. And Counties did all this without the loss of a single possession, who were carried off, to be replaced by Clayton, after 20 minutes. Wilkinson had a mazy dash on the thigh.

Little went right for the Australians, who were looked a little uncomfortable in the night, where they yielded two strikes to Wheeler, and overall made far too many basic errors in handling, discipline and even judgement. McLean had an off night with his

One-man variety performance

By Gordon Allan
Sussex 0 Surrey 0

Sussex, who had already conceded 54 points to Eastern Counties and 41 to Middlesex, were on the receiving end again at Old Deer Park yesterday. Surrey won by seven goals, three penalties and a drop goal, and kept their unbeaten record in the South-Eastern Division of the county rugby championship. Their opponents, who were away from home for the first time since 26 and Middlesex at Roshay Park on December 14.

Simmons, the Roshay Park back, who was a replacement for Hughes of London Welsh, in the centre, scored 30 points. This astonishing total comprised four tries, seven conversions and three drop goals. He was not a record in county rugby at least, it ought to be.

Everything went right for him. A penalty kick of his that resulted in a try, a conversion, a drop goal from the posts was pulled back by the wind and the ball bounced over off the cross-bar. When the Sussex, passing, broke through the line, it was Simmons who was on the spot to score the try—his third. And when Surrey ran the ball at a moped penalty inside the Sussex 25 in the last minutes, they took it. Simmons took it. Simmons took it.

Hampshire crushed after late changes

By Alan Gibson
Hampshire 0 Middlesex 71

"Plenty to write about there!" several people said to me yesterday, but there wasn't really. There never is when a game is so one-sided as this. Some such result was predictable in the first 10 minutes. Hampshire, because of assorted misfortunes, had to make four late changes, which involved a further positional change. Not that they were likely to get near winning anyway, but this deprived Hampshire of any chance of coming effectively, and it was soon only a question of how many points Middlesex would score.

The answer was 10 goals, two tries, a drop goal and a conversion. Their tries were the result of impressive combination and speed: Lambert and Rees, on the wings, particularly enjoyed themselves. But the real brilliance was played in the middle. It was, in the old phrase, John L. Sullivan punching his way out of a paper bag. (Though I was a little sceptical about that, it is more difficult than it sounds: nor do I wish to imply

Cambridge lit up in a shade of electric blue

By Peter Marston
Cambridge 32 Gloucester 12

Cambridge University were in scintillating form on a drab, cold afternoon at Grange Road yesterday. To say that Gloucester received a drabbing would not be to overstate the case, for by no-side, when they looked weary and drawn, they had been beaten by three goals, two tries and two penalty goals. The university's rugby this Michaelmas-term must be a success story, for they have won three of their four matches and there is no question that the dash and deeds of deriding do by a galaxy of talent behind the scrum have left the city in a state of fervent excitement.

One would have hardly thought it possible to describe the atmosphere as electric. It was a leaden day, but electric it was, with some stunning rugby by the university lighting the stage in a brilliant colour.

The extent of Cambridge's great good fortune is plain to see when it is realized that the present success was accomplished without assistance from their triumphant of English internationals, the captain Warwick, who was injured, and the outstanding players, Al. McQuarrie and Malik from the forwards joined them in ranks of the waiting wounded yesterday. Beginning with a rousing try by Wood after barely five minutes.

Rugby League

England 25 Australia 25

Roger Millward, the England scrum half and captain, walked to the dressing-room in tears after being sent off for the first time in his career in the Rugby League international against Australia at Leeds last night. Millward and the Australian scrum half, Raudonitis, who looked the real offender, were dismissed by the referee after a seventh-minute flare-up.

Millward, a disconsolate figure in the dressing-room, said: "I don't really know why I was sent off. Raudonitis had a go at me and the next thing I knew I was on the floor. It is the first time I have ever been sent off at any level."

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Littlewoods Pools, Liverpool

Cricket
Chappell warned about his future conduct

Adelaide, Nov 12.—Ian Chappell, the former Australian Test captain, tonight was warned that he was liable to suspension if he were reported again for misconduct. The warning was issued by a subcommittee of the South Australian Cricket Association and came in the wake of Chappell's Sheffield Shield match against New South Wales which ended on a forfeit. Chappell is the South Australian captain.

He was reported by the umpires for two overs of head-high full tosses to New South Wales batsmen on Sunday and for his on-field language. No action was taken against him, but the committee said they were disappointed at his behaviour.

His attention was again drawn to an instruction from the Australian Cricket Board to all players that they faced suspension for conduct detrimental to the game. When the meeting ended Chappell stormed out of the Cricket Association headquarters, refused to talk to the press and television, and headed for the state practice nets some 200 metres away.

Ian and Greg, his brother, will be in opposition as captains at the Adelaide Oval on Friday when South Australia meet Queensland in a Sheffield Shield match—Agence France Presse.

Athletics
Three cases for revealing names of guilty

By Neil Allen
Athletics Correspondent

Athens, Greece and London's Crystal Palace national sports centre were the scenes of three major athletics fixtures last summer. They were also the scenes of three major athletics scandals. The first was the case of the European Cup, the second was the case of the European Cup, and the third was the case of the European Cup.

The results attained from their racing programme have, they say, been strikingly good. The centre was founded in 1961 and has since then been a centre of excellence for the sport. It has been a centre of excellence for the sport.

Motor racing
Gulf Oil to withdraw from racing

Gulf Oil Company are withdrawing from motor racing. The company have been continuously engaged in the sport for nine years and have achieved considerable success.

The results attained from their racing programme have, they say, been strikingly good. The centre was founded in 1961 and has since then been a centre of excellence for the sport. It has been a centre of excellence for the sport.

The Norwich Way

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In our experience, the safest time to survey a building for fire insurance purposes is before it's been built.

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Greece thinks again about defence ties with Nato

Greece is trying to build up a special military relationship with the North Atlantic Alliance, which would meet her long-term political and defence requirements as a western nation, without upsetting domestic susceptibilities.

When the Greek leaders decided to pull out of Nato's integrated military structure last year in the wake of the second Turkish assault on Cyprus, they were certainly giving vent to frustration over Nato's failure to act. But above all they were responding to a persistent popular demand born out of strong suspicions about the Greek junta and the catastrophic coup in Cyprus.

These suspicions still persist, but the leaders of the Greek Government now feel that while the nation may afford some emotional latitude during a period of East-West détente, moody outbursts of this sort can, in times of crisis, become lethal luxuries.

The Greek Prime Minister, in a candid speech before Parliament, said that while Greece was now able to defend herself in case of a local war, should there be a general conflict Greece would need to co-operate with the West in order to survive.

He proposed that Greece's relationship with Nato should be based on four principles: First, the Greek armed forces would remain in peacetime exclusively under the national command. Secondly, in case of a general conflict there would be full defence cooperation with Nato. Thirdly, the mechanism needed to trigger this co-operation would be created now; and fourthly, any major Nato activity on Greek territory, whether in peace or in war, would require prior approval from the Greek Government.

The Greek proposal to Nato was formulated in a mission plan which also reserved to the Greek Government the right to decide when Greek forces would take part in Nato manoeuvres, but offered the alliance three vital advantages: continued control and use of the early warning system and other Nato communications, as well as use of the defence infrastructure built with Nato funds in Greece in the last two decades; continued exchange of intelligence information; and continued nuclear warhead stockpiling in Greece.

A running feud with the Greeks

Negotiations on this plan are due to begin in Brussels soon. Turkey and other member nations have expressed opposition on the ground that if each member sought a special military status, little would be left of the alliance.

This view is shared by Dr Joseph Luns, the Secretary-General, who seems to have a running feud with the Greeks, as well as by the Americans, who are concerned lest this loose link might affect their own military presence in Greece. The Greek leaders say that if this formula of cooperation is rejected, they would be forced to quit Nato altogether.

A total break with the alliance would be as costly to the Greeks as it would be to Nato: for one thing it would leave Greece's northern borders exposed while her full military attention is focused eastward because of tension with Turkey.



Mr Karamanlis—support from Britain.

Besides, many members of the European Economic Community have let it be understood that Greece's efforts to accelerate her entry as a full member in the Community would have better chances if she regularized her position in Nato.

Further, after Greece's withdrawal, the post of the Allied Naval Commander for the Aegean remains vacant. The Greeks would be very upset indeed if Nato assigned this position to a Turkish admiral at a time when jurisdiction over the Aegean is the subject of bitter litigation between Greece and Turkey.

Finally, the Greek economy has been so burdened by the combined impact of the international financial crisis and the massive rearmament programme that the thought of paying vast indemnities to Nato for the extensive and costly infrastructure installations built in Greece (such as airways, airfields, harbours and sophisticated bases) is quite forbidding.

On the other hand, if Greece leaves Nato, Western defence in south Europe is likely to suffer. Greece's absence would create a blind spot between Italy and Turkey in Nato's vital early warning system, while the defensive continuity of the South European Command would be broken, leaving Turkey's western flank exposed and, however unlikely, Nato could hardly afford to disregard the potential value of Greece—neutral or otherwise—to the enemy.

When Mr Karamanlis visited London recently, he received assurances from Mr Harold Wilson that Britain would support his Nato formula. The British view is that the Greeks should not be forced into a position of having to say yes or no to Nato altogether; the Greek Prime Minister has stated that in case of a satisfactory Cyprus settlement, Greece might reconsider her position in Nato. Therefore, it is argued, it would be to everybody's advantage to preserve as many defence links as possible between Nato and Greece, until such time as a resumption of full co-operation would again be possible.

Mario Modiano

In the growing isolation of Israel, how just are the accusations against Zionism?

The United Nations resolution on Zionism passed earlier this week again raised a spectre believed to have been buried in 1945. There has never been a secret about the aspirations of Zionism. A study of its origins* just published restates what has been common knowledge for at least eight decades: that it was an attempt to provide an answer to the Jewish question and to re-create the Jews as a political nation. For a third of the Jewish people the attempt came too late.

Whether Zionism was a good idea or a bad one has been discussed endlessly, above all among the Jews themselves. In 1948 when the state of Israel came into being, it assumed most of the functions of the Zionist movement, and with the emergence of this new reality the debates about Zionism are now mainly of historical interest. Since the United Nations General Assembly does not as a rule engage in historical research the intention behind the resolution may seem puzzling at first sight.

A great many accusations have been made against Zionism, but racism, so far, was not one of them. On the contrary, Arab spokesmen have always insisted on the common ("semitic") racial origin of Jews and Arabs. If so, Arab animosity to Zionism could not possibly be racist in character. Conversely, of course, Jewish attitudes to their Arab cousins could not be racist either. This argument is a little suspect but only because there is no scientific race. It is, moreover, with another frequently voiced Arab thesis, namely that the Jews are not a people, let alone a race, but a religious community. For that reason, if for no other, they have no right to a country and a state of their own.

From the Arab point of view, whichever way one looks at it, whether the Jews are "cousins" or whether they are no race at all, Zionism, whatever its other misdeeds, can be defined as a great many accusations.

There has never been a secret about the aspirations of Zionism, but the recent UN resolution has again raised the spectre of what was believed to have ended with the fall of Hitler, writes an historian who rejects Zionism as being racist.

In 1937 Jamal Hussini, secretary of the Arab Higher Committee, declared in his evidence before the Royal Commission headed by Lord Peel: "As to the Communist principles and ideas of Jewish immigrants most repugnant to the religion, customs and ethical principles of this country, which are imported and disseminated, I need not dwell upon them as these ideas are well known to the Jewish community."

This kind of propaganda, quite effective in the age of fascism, was one of fashion after Hitler's death, and the unfortunate Zionist movement, having been "Bolshevik" in character, has now become "racist" and "imperialist".

The charge is not dismissed as absurd because the international community has changed its attitude to the Jews. In the course of its history Zionism and the State of Israel antagonized not only the Arab countries but also the Soviet block, and have irritated for a variety of reasons the Vatican, the Trotskyites, some oil companies and a great many other people. Third World countries do not greatly care

one way or another about the subject, but most of them have suffered from the oil crisis, and there is every incentive not to annoy those who can help them. Thus Israel, a small country without oil or other strategically important minerals, found itself in growing isolation on the international scene.

The League of Nations, with all its weaknesses, eventually rid itself of the dictatorship (Germany in 1933, Italy in 1935 and also the Soviet Union in 1939). The United Nations, on the other hand, has been taken over by a majority which, whatever its internal differences, agrees that dictatorship is beautiful, while democracy is not. Israel failed to adjust itself to these new realities by relinquishing outmoded democratic institutions in favour of a progressive military dictatorship, or at the very least a one-party state. To this extent Arab complaints about the alien character of the Jewish state in the Middle East environment are no doubt correct.

Present-day attitudes towards Zionism are dictated by a great measure of cynicism, whereas the Israeli reaction has been naive, sometimes in the extreme. Since the establishment of their state they had a claim to the support of all men of good will in what still remains of the civilized world. This, of course, is not so.

It is easy to point to the shortsightedness and a decision of successive Israeli governments, particularly in relation to their Arab neighbours, to manifestations of narrow-mindedness and intolerance among public opinion, to the belligerent religious-chauvinistic lobby. It is equally true that in an imperfect world Israel grossly misuses neither better nor worse than other democratic societies. In comparison with the not much more united in the Middle East and elsewhere it still is a paradigm of freedom and human rights. If it has no automatic claim to sympathy or exemption from criticism it has

Ronald Butt

Why the Lords must be allowed to keep its teeth

I had better start by declaring an interest in the matter of the House of Lords' resistance to the Government's establishing legislation for closed shops as this interests me as a member of the Institute of Journalists. I am naturally concerned about the possible consequences of a measure which, in certain conditions, and at some more distant date, could inhibit the freedom of expression of journalists whose views on union, political or social issues did not find favour with the closed shop majority.

This danger could be the greater if we are really now moving into a period when the appointment of editors may be increasingly subject to the veto, however informal, of the union representatives of newspaper staffs. To those who ask why the press alone should claim to be exempt from the closed shop, the answer is that its product is the only one I can imagine whose essential nature could conceivably be affected by a closed shop. I do not suppose that a closed shop in a car or a canning factory would affect the design of a car or the contents that are canned, whatever it might do, for better or worse, to productivity. But a closed shop could determine what goes into newspapers—and even if it is only "could", the risk is real enough to take serious notice.

This, said, what is immediately important is the position being adopted by the Labour Party in respect of the perfectly legitimate exercise by the Lords of the constitutional powers of delay which they were given by a Labour Government in 1949.

Now, it would be perfectly acceptable if a Labour Government came in committed as a matter of principle (not of political expediency) to reform the second chamber, further reduces its delaying powers, substitutes a chamber of completely different composition or even

embrace uni-cameral government—provided whatever it proposed had been clearly put to the people and thrashed out in the preceding election. The House of Lords is to equip the house of Lords with powers, and then threaten to remove these powers if they are used on particular occasions. It is like changing the rules in the middle of a game which you look like losing. Mr Foot and Mr Short go on about the unfairness of the House of Commons but yet again voted by a considerable majority in a different sense from the Lords. So it had. But the power of the House of Lords exists (as the power of any second chamber worth having would exist) precisely to act as a brake when the Lords have reason to believe that the people as a whole might not sympathize with the report by opinion, with what the Commons majority are doing.

One cannot not it better than Lord Bryce did in 1919 when he presented to the Prime Minister (Lloyd George) the Report of the Second Chamber Commission. Bryce said that the functions of such a Chamber he said, "included the introduction of so much delay (and no more) in the passing of a Bill into law as may be needed to enable the opinion of the nation to be adequately expressed upon it. This delay is not to be exercised by the House of Lords, but by the House of Commons, which since the fundamental principles of legislation, or which raise issues whereon the opinion of the country may appear to be almost equally divided."

It is the minimum function that ought to be exercised by a second chamber worth preserving, and if the Labour Party really believes that we should have uni-cameral government, or a second chamber of undisturbed members concerned with no more than the normal revision of Bills, it should

go to the country.

There is a strong case now for the substitution of the present House of Lords by a Second Chamber with powers which cannot be scorned at Labour's convenience because of its composition. The Parliament Act of 1911 which limited the powers of the hereditary House was never intended to be permanent, and eight years afterwards the report by Bryce expressed very well the problems and possible solutions.

The problem was, of course, composition. A directly elected chamber was rejected on the grounds that this would imply a mandate and rivalry with the Commons. Indirect elections to a Second Chamber, and a sort of local authority basis, were rejected because they "would certainly introduce party politics into the elections of those county councils and borough councils which had hitherto been conducted on non-party lines."

Instead, a system was proposed for the election of the great majority of the Second Chamber (about 250) by members of the House of Commons acting together in geographical groups, representing the regions of the country, and voting privately by proportional representation (the single transferable vote). To save the Second Chamber from violent fluctuations of opinion, members would hold their seats for 12 years, one third retiring every fourth year. It was also to have a section of about 80 members (initially from the old peerage) chosen by a joint standing committee of both Houses.

Something like this could with advantage be re-examined today. It could at least give the Second Chamber an authority based on the House of Commons as an institution and on regional interests, without making it dependent on any single House of

Commons. But, of course, it is significant that the Bryce report's case against elections by local authorities no longer has force, since these are now everywhere party-based. Since the cry of our time is for regional representation, why should there not be a Second Chamber based at least in part on a system representing the separate regions and interests of the United Kingdom?

If, of course, we find ourselves on anything like a federal course as a consequence of the filtration with devolved government, some "state-based" Second Chamber would be almost essential. The House of Commons then really would be faced with a real Second Chamber, representing separate federal states, which had its own rights—with the risk of possible stalemates between the Houses such as we see in Australia today.

As things are, their system is wholly different from ours and the Governor-General is clearly acting with constitutional propriety in refusing to end a constitutionally permitted later-House deadlock. Indeed, only two lessons can be drawn from the Australian imbroglio—first, that this is what can happen in a non-unitary state; second, that it appears to be an attribute of Labour governments everywhere to wish to change the constitution when it appears to be an obstacle to their wishes.

Let Labour demolish the present House of Lords if they can but something should be put in its place that cannot simply be reviled and threatened every time it uses its legitimate power of delaying long enough for public opinion to make itself felt in matters of constitutional importance or, as in the present case, individual freedom. Mrs Thatcher and Conservatives should think about the possibility of making a stronger, more publicly acceptable Second Chamber one of their causes.

Professor Walter Laqueur

*The author is director of the Institute of Contemporary History and Wiener Library Ltd.

The Origins of Zionism, by David Vital, is published by the Clarendon Press at £8.50.

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He indicated that he was in a hurry to go to the polls, but that he would be in the early months of whether he wanted to play himself in or whether he would go all out to force a general election so the government's narrow margin of majority might be diminished.

His loss of a crucial by-election and its credibility suggesting increasing evidence of material bungling in previous foreign tours. He can scarcely have imagined how he would set the premiership on a level for a while.

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Denis Taylor

Bermuda.

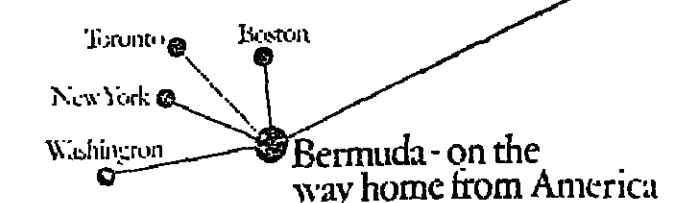


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You are, dear readers, in for a treat tomorrow. I am giving up control of this Diary (Hooley!) but only for the day (Boo!). It will be taken over by the Rev Jimmy James, a parish priest from Norfolk; and you have Esther Rantzen and the BBC to thank.

Miss Rantzen is producing a series of programmes called The Big Time, to be screened next summer. The idea is that somebody who does something in a small, amateur way (not, in this case, me, it might surprise some to know) should have a chance to do it professionally, to hit the Big Time, for a day. James qualifies for the honour by being editor of his parish magazine.

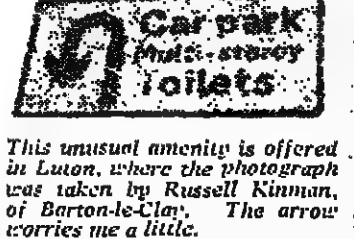
It has been an exciting time. It began when James, Miss Rantzen, her assistant Patricia Houlihan and I met for a large lunch at Rule's in Maiden Lane in the late summer. Miss Rantzen is a stickler for spontaneity and would not let James and me talk about the mechanics of diary editing, preferring to let us go into that fresh in front of the cameras. Apart from my sizzling a morsel of juiced hare down Miss Rantzen's skirt, the lunch was a success.

The cameras made their first appearance at The Times one day last month, to record the (for the purposes of the film) first meeting between James and me. Television crews turn in extraordinarily large groups. There were about a dozen men and women sitting on chairs, desks and floor, obsessively sending out papers. Occasionally one would leap up and brandish a microphone, or one of those sweet little clapperboards which I thought existed only in Hollywood films about Hollywood.

Miss Rantzen knows how to please. "What a magnificent de you're wearing," were the

The Times Diary

Why I look forward to tomorrow



This unusual amenity is offered in Luton, where the photograph was taken by Russell Kinnman, of Barton-le-Clay. The arrow carries me a little.

First words she addressed to me. James had to come in and shake hands twice, and there was a complex piece of rigmarole in which I had to take his coat. After being wired for sound, we chatted before the cameras to each other and to Miss Rantzen, who had just finished we had to go through some of the motions again, to be filmed at different angles.

Some of the production team went to that day's morning editorial conference, to prepare for filming that significant event: the first meeting of the day. I quite spoiled the church solemnity by coughing spectacularly throughout, but apart from that the day went well. The main filming was this week. When I arrived on Monday the crew seemed even bigger than before and had entirely taken over the office.

It was a different life, but the compulsory was less effective the second time around. I noticed that she and Miss Houlihan had stopped chewing gum but instead Miss Rantzen had taken to destroying paper clips compulsively throughout the filming. When she left, her corner was strewn with the wreckage of metal.

Then we went to the editorial conference, to film me reading out that day's Diary schedule. I thought it rather badly but Miss Rantzen said: "You were marvellous. You looked totally bored by the whole thing." Nobody coughed, but the Deputy Editor asked me: "Which one is Esther Rantzen?"

The cameras have been in and out of the office all week, and when they are not here in person there are numerous telephone calls from Miss Houlihan setting up appointments. Life will seem dull after today, their last day of filming. You will have to contain your impatience for several months before you see the programme, but I am sure you will enjoy tomorrow's Diary.

In exile Motorway signs, announcing "Ave del Presidente" or "about the only remaining indication in San Clemente, California, that this halcyon, somewhat dusty piece of Pacific coast

was once the alternate White House of Richard Nixon. Fred Emery reports that, true to the image of exile, there is now no outward sign that the Nixons still live in the Pacific. A last, small, white, single-story house is hidden in a cluster of palms and by a huge eucalyptus tree, the drive is barred by a large electrically operated gate, which carries a sign saying it is the entrance to the Nixon family's last, small, white, single-story house.

Something like this could with advantage be re-examined today. It could at least give the Second Chamber an authority based on the House of Commons as an institution and on regional interests, without making it dependent on any single House of

The Nixon property is so close to the motorway, railway, and the coast, but since only two trains pass each day the railway can hardly be a nuisance. For the locals, one thing has improved since the Nixon presidency expired. The beach, reputed to be one of the best for surfing, is now open to the public. Groups of young men sport wet suits, that permit them year-round immersion in cool fort.

Party time Connoisseurs of by-elections are impressed by the originality of West Mayo (result today). It is a marvellous mix of high-powered organization and dancing. Liam Cosgrave, the Irish Prime Minister, is putting everything into holding the vital seat. He has sent half a dozen of his Cabinet Ministers, with parliamentary secretaries, as directors of elections in villages and hamlets.

There is plenty for them to

do in the constituency, which is almost as large as the distance from London to Birmingham, and 35 miles wide. Tall mountains and long lakes impede progress. Ministers in black Mercedes cars, packed with canvassers and helpers, have been speeding up mountain sides and along remote tracks, mopping up doubtfuls.

At about 10 pm torchlight processions, sometimes with singing and drums, light the way to meetings, a few of which begin at a time when most English people are in bed.

Then come the by-election rallies and outposts for visiting politicians, helpers and friends in hotels all over the constituency.

any. The very first thing local politicians did when the by-election was announced was to apply to the local judges for a series of licence extensions. Cabinet Ministers go to 10 or 12 balls a night, and since they are expected to do so, they are expected to do so on the floor. Dancing is a passion in Mayo, the way fitter or football in England. It's old-time mostly, interspersed with dashing Irish numbers. The Walls of Limerick for the robust. Tickets cost £50 (or £250 for Sinn Féin) and with up to 1,200 dancers overflowing on to the stairs, the fire escapes, and the front parlours, the party funds can benefit up to £300 from one by-election ball.

Unsporting There was no apparent reason why Roger Bagnar should be asked to take part in a fashion show modelling tennis clothes yesterday. Bagnar is a boxer, not a male model, and his sport is not tennis, even in his spare time.

Rapid rise of in Australian Hawk

Mr Malcolm Fraser, the caretaker Prime Minister of Australia, is a hawkish politician whose ideas can come of his own followers. He is a hawkish politician whose ideas can come of his own followers. He is a hawkish politician whose ideas can come of his own followers.

There are arguably more intelligent men than Mr Fraser in the Liberal and Country Parties, which have held federal power for most of the post-war era. But there is nobody on his side of the House who can approach his driving ambition.

His recent rise to power has been rapid. Although he was considered a potential party leader, there was until this year nothing extraordinary about the pace of his advancement. Mr Fraser, who is 45, is 14 years younger than Whitlam, has represented a same constituency in Victoria for 20 years. In 1971 Mr Fraser resigned as Minister for Defence in a dispute over a newspaper article which had accused him of disloyalty to the army.

The then Prime Minister, Mr John Gorton, had been aware of the article before publication, and Mr Fraser bitterly resented him for failing to deny it and have it quashed. The resulting crisis quickly led to Mr Gorton's step down.

There is to be two more years to go to the polls, but Mr Fraser quickly established himself as a stronger opponent of the Labour administration, and a respected if hardly a loved man.

He indicated that he was in a hurry to go to the polls, but that he would be in the early months of whether he wanted to play himself in or whether he would go all out to force a general election so the government's narrow margin of majority might be diminished.

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Denis Taylor



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ISSUE OF JOBS AND JUSTICE

Mr Murray claims that this is justified by the fact that this issue was at the forefront of the February, 1974, General Election and that "the people of Britain made their views on the matter known in no uncertain manner". In fact at that election the Labour Party won 301 seats out of 635 with 300,000 fewer votes than the Conservative Party. Even in the subsequent October election in which the question of the rights of trade unions was a major issue, the Labour Party received less than forty per cent of the votes. Mr Foot has decided that this Bill will have to go through the House of Commons again. He may come to regret that. Last time too much of the public attention was concentrated on the effect it would have on the press. We are partly to blame for that. This time one can hope that it is the repeal of section five of the 1974 Act which will receive the greatest attention. The first time round the Conservative Party were not in a strong political position. This time round they are in a stronger position to make their arguments heard, and if they do, they will stand up for the rights of ordinary trade unionists. Where a man's livelihood is at stake he is entitled not to be excluded or expelled by his union or to be dismissed by his employer without just cause. He is entitled, if wrongfully expelled, to a legal remedy. Thanks to the arrogance and folly of Mr Foot and his astonishing willingness to waste Government time in the House of Commons, he has lost his bid for this session. The fight to preserve section five of the 1974 Act, an issue on which job security and justice for every trade unionist depends, is now again open.

END BILL UNLIKELY TO BRING BENEFIT

Where compulsory purchase is threatened would have been largely absent, while authorities would have been able to pursue their ends in a cloak of studied vagueness. The worst of these threats have now been modified (though some decidedly sinister powers remain in reserve for use, it is said, only in exceptional circumstances). But the original proposals were not introduced merely out of distaste for democratic checks and balances. Although the Bill has been proclaimed as a means of making development land more readily available, it must have been obvious even to those who promoted it that in some respects it was bound to slow the planning process down. Once planning permission has been granted, it will be put into suspension until the local authority has decided whether to buy the land (in some circumstances, it will be obliged to, but everywhere the presumption must be that it will intervene far more often). The existing procedure for compulsory purchase, with all its safeguards, is slow; so, now, will be the procedure under the Bill. The cumbersome machinery of planning will be encumbered even more. Before the Bill was ever drafted, delay was the problem of the moment in planning: a committee was set up to examine it. The problem was partly the effect of a booming market. Now the Government, after two years of slump, is in a position to boast

RAVEL FOR DR SAKHAROV

can be said for the vision to stop Dr Sakharov from going to Oslo to collect the Nobel Peace Prize is that it is honest that allows him to refuse to go back. It remains a question of his human rights, several sections of the agreement. It is also a question of the insensitivity which the Soviet Union played in international relations. It did not like the fact that Dr Sakharov had his own standing or that he was on the path of its case by the use of primitive and unproductive methods. The refusal of the Soviet Union to permit compounds the tests of this sort will be misinterpreted, as are the comments on it. The difference is enormous. To try people in the West is wrong that a disman should be from collecting a prize but also and incredible that could assume the right to whether anybody allowed to board an Oslo. To most Russians quite normal.

its flame still burning, yet that morning star which knoweth no setting; yet he who from the grave returning shone serene upon his humankind. "I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star." Some would say

that the queue of appeals has almost been eliminated. Yesterday Mr Silkin announced that the most important recommendations of the Doherty committee would not be implemented. They had sought to speed the machinery by proposing different procedures for controversial planning applications and for the great uncontroversial majority which are assured of acceptance sooner or later. These proposals could not easily be reconciled with the Land Bill, which assigns so different a role to local authorities. Sir Desmond Reap, returning to the attack on the Bill in his final Hamlyn lecture last night, declared roundly that it was impossible to reconcile them, and Mr Silkin has in effect conceded the point. What delays the Bill will cause in an unreformed system once economic activity picks up can easily be envisaged. Sir Desmond, who believes that "bureaucratic institutions should not be expected to have developmental initiative", has perhaps an unduly low opinion of the capacity of public bodies, and he overstates the unanimity of professional opposition to the Bill (the Royal Town Planning Institute and the Town and Country Planning Association have withdrawn their strongest objections in the light of amendments to the Bill), but his central charge, that the measure is a threat to the public accountability of the planning process, has as much force as ever.

on the whole, supported détente because it assumed that the Soviet and east European governments were becoming less oppressive and therefore more acceptable as partners in business and negotiation. It also rightly assumed that the lowering of tension in Europe depended on gradual changes in Soviet attitudes towards matters such as travel, information and human rights in Eastern Europe. Détente therefore depends both on the Soviet Union continuing to show some regard for western opinion and on western opinion continuing to believe that Soviet attitudes are evolving in a more liberal direction. At the moment things are looking rather wobbly in both these areas, and the Sakharov decision is one symptom. Obviously Moscow is nervous about the expectations aroused by the Helsinki conference. It is also uncertain about its own political succession and about the line that will emerge from the party congress next February. In such conditions people try to take safe decisions or no decisions at all. It is therefore possible that the phase is only temporary. But the Soviet leaders are doubtless aware that in the long run their treatment of dissidents cannot be divorced from their foreign policy.

that the irony is in the choice of this name for a communist newspaper. Yours faithfully, K. G. PRATT, 83 New Park, March, Isle of Ely.

Defect in Mental Health Act

From Mr Michael J. Bellis
Sir, It is disturbing after some 15 years that it is only now becoming apparent that certain provisions of the Mental Health Act, 1959, require urgent amendment. (Mr S. R. Spiller's letter, November 11, 1975). May I bring to notice a further defect in the implementation of another section of the Act? A young man charged with murder who has been in custody since April 1974, and who was committed for trial as long ago as May 24, but still awaits trial. During August a close relative went to visit him at HM Prison, Brixton, only to discover that he had been transferred to Rampton Psychiatric Hospital without her, the other relatives or even ourselves as defence solicitors, having been informed.

The transfer direction had been effected under Section 73 of the Act which states briefly—that if the Secretary of State is satisfied by reports from at least two medical practitioners that a person awaiting trial is suffering from mental illness, psychopathic disorder, subnormality or severe abnormality; and also that the disorder is of such a nature that it warrants detention of the prisoner in a hospital for medical treatment, then the Secretary of State may direct that the prisoner be removed to and be detained in hospital for such treatment. The Governor of Brixton, upon inquiry, informed me that when the transfer direction was issued, the Home Office would have informed the trial court (in this case the Old Bailey) and it had been assumed that the court then informed the release and/or the solicitor for the defence. The courts administrator at the Central Criminal Court has advised me in writing, however, that they are not informed of transfers of prisoners and cannot therefore have any responsibility in the matter. In this particular instance great distress was caused to the relatives and surely, in 15 years, this situation must have occurred before. However, it seems that there are no provisions in the Act for telling anyone, and there are obviously no satisfactory arrangements for the release of the prisoner. I should be interested to learn of any change in procedure that the Secretary of State has in mind to obviate such difficulties arising in the future. Yours faithfully, MICHAEL J. BELLIS, Edward Oliver & Bellis, Solicitors and Commissioners for Oaths, PO Box 15, Broadway Chambers, 1 Cranbrook Road, Ufford, Essex, November 11.

Shared printing plants

From Mr Michael Finley
Sir, On behalf of the Guild of British Newspaper Editors may I say how appreciative we were of your article on the proposed shared printing plants which you gave to our oral submissions to the Royal Commission on the Press (The Times, October 31). However, I would like, if I may, to correct one small but important point of presentation. Your reporter quoted me as saying that the Commission proposed any plan to establish printing plants, either on a nationalised or a co-operative basis. In fact we did not state our opposition to such proposals in principle. The burden of our evidence was to ask how it was that such plans were to be free from what the Commission referred to as "censorship imposed by market forces". Our point was that unless such plans had the benefit of very substantial government subsidies their costs would be at least as great as those of the private press, and that since it was possible to make use of present resources at something very close to cost, it was difficult to see what special benefits could accrue from publicly owned facilities. Yours faithfully, MICHAEL FINLEY, Chairman, Parliamentary & Legal Committee, Guild of British Newspaper Editors, 6 Carmelite Street, EC4, November 5.

Devolution

From Mr Ken Chamberlin
Sir, Would it not be prudent for the English to re-visit Hadrian's Wall and Offa's Dyke? Yours truly, KEN CHAMBERLIN, Maryland, Seaford, Sussex, November 8.

The Equity meetings

From Miss Vanessa Redgrave
Sir, In the letter you have published today (November 12) from Marius Goring and Nigel Davenport it is stated that at the close of the three Special General Meetings of Equity held at the Coliseum last Sunday, I announced that the council and the Davenport-Oliver proposals had been "overwhelmingly defeated". At no time and to no one did I make such a comment, nor any comment to the press. This statement was the invention of the newspapers which reported the meeting. Am I to understand from this letter that Marius Goring and Nigel Davenport are in favour of a referendum calling for the decision of the Special General Meeting, governed by the rule in the constitution of Equity which requires that rule changes receive a two-thirds majority, to be ignored? Yours, etc, VANESSA REDGRAVE, 18 St Peter's Square, W6, November 12.

In the letter printed yesterday from Mr Marius Goring and Mr Nigel Davenport on the Equity meetings the Davenport-Oliver motion failed to achieve a two-thirds majority by 161 votes, and not by 16 as printed.

Recording confessions by accused

From Mr G. Selva Rajan
Sir, Your editorial "A Disquieting Miscarriage of Justice" (October 18) rightly points out, "An inadequate element during police interrogation is needed". I write as an Advocate of the Supreme Court of India. The British jurists, when they entered in the thirties the Indian Evidence Act, had the benefit of centuries of experience of English Common Law and the rules of evidence that had been evolved. According to the provisions of this Act, no statement made to a police officer, except the first information of a crime, is admissible as evidence in court unless (a) it was made in the presence of another independent person, or (b) as a result of the statement the officer does something which leads to the discovery of material evidence, or a witness is produced, or stolen articles, new witnesses etc. A confession by an accused has to be taken down by a magistrate, no police officer being present at the time, who has to make sure that the confession was made voluntarily.

It places a severe burden of uncertainty on the judges and magistrates if they are in a decision when to believe a particular police officer's evidence of an alleged admission or confession made by an accused while in custody. If the basis of a confession be that it is voluntary, can there be any reason why it could not be made to a magistrate a few hours afterwards? Your editorial states, "Regrettably in many cases allegations of police 'verbalising' are found to have some element of truth". The police officers themselves may well welcome such a measure for it removes from their shoulders the onerous task of having to prove that the admission of the accused was really made to them and was also voluntary.

Law reformers could well consider why such a civilized and secure measure which was suitable

The GLC and industry

From the Leader of the GLC
Sir, The GLC share the Government's concern about the decline of Britain's manufacturing industries and supports its policy of giving top priority to reversing that decline as outlined in last week's "Approach to industrial strategy". As the nation's largest industrial centre London clearly has a major role to play in this new policy designed to regenerate British industry. But London's manufacturing industry has been in a state of serious decline. Since 1961 the capital has lost nearly half a million manufacturing jobs. The percentage of London's workforce employed in manufacturing industries has dropped from 33 per cent in 1961 to 24 per cent in 1974. This is lower than the national average of 30 per cent stated in the Government's industrial strategy. We at County Hall see the Government's policy as a new opportunity and one that has two important implications for the future of London's manufacturing industries. First, the Government says that industrial output is the key objective of its policy and that it will analyse industry's performance sector by sector to determine where its aid should best be employed. It recognizes that there will be industries in the same sector with different performance levels in different areas. We therefore hope that this analysis will reveal why it is that some industries which have been growing in the country as a whole, like electrical and mechanical engineering, food, drink and tobacco, chemical and printing and publishing, are declining in London. We also hope this analysis will indicate what needs to be done as a consequence to put London's firms in a position where they will once again be able to achieve the major contribution needed for our national recovery. Whatever the answer, it must mean some injection of additional resources into London and other conurbations. Secondly, the new policy suggests that if the Government is to succeed in its aims, it must be more flexible in where it allows industry to increase its output. Firms in London, for example, could step up output much more quickly if they are allowed to stay and expand in London than if they are forced to make an expensive and certainly time consuming move outside London. The Government will therefore have to relax its policy of restricting industrial expansion in London.

There is a further point we would like to make on the Government's new approach. While we welcome its intention to have regular discussions with both sides of industry we were concerned that no mention was made in the document of the part to be played by local government. For it is authorities like the GLC that are responsible for drawing up plans for land use, for masterplanning transport and for planning the development of the general infrastructure, all of which set the conditions in which industry operates. London's large and complex infrastructure is deteriorating and urgently needs an injection of resources to create a new springboard for increasing industrial output. London's docklands are an obvious case in point. The continued decline of the capital's infrastructure would strike a blow not only to London's industrial performance but would also rob the nation of a key contribution in getting the nation back on its industrial feet. Yours sincerely, REG GOODWIN, The County Hall, SE1.

Oxford Union appeal

From Mr Janet Morgan
Sir, During the past few days some criticisms of the Oxford Union Society have been made in your columns by Messrs Parsons, Kettle and Pegg (November 7). Their letters deserve an answer. The misconceptions of Mr Parsons's letter (November 4) have been sufficiently exposed in the reply from Mr Critchley (November 8). Not only is the Oxford University Students Union hardly a "central student union", being unrepresentative in character with meetings that are poorly attended, but it is not celebrated for either administrative or financial competence. It is perhaps worth observing that attendance at the Oxford Union Society's debates is far higher than that at "open meetings" of the other body. Furthermore, the Oxford Union Society is a voluntary organization of the university and one of the results of a successful appeal will be to keep subscriptions at a level that undergraduates can afford.

Doctors' contracts

From Mr A. E. Young and others
Sir, We have read the letter from Professor Morris and his colleagues (November 11) and we applaud their concern for the standards of medical training and clinical care. Those of us who represent the majority of hospital doctors in the London area feel however that Professor Morris and his colleagues in abhorring the principle of "overtime" payments for doctors have misunderstood the intentions underlying the new contract for junior hospital doctors. The new contract seeks to depart from the present system of "extra duty payments" which is assumed to be a reward for obtaining a basic salary position where the doctor is free to go on with his job unhindered by that very concern for hours that Professor Morris and his colleagues fear. The new contract does not seek in any way prospectively to define, limit or reduce the hours that a doctor will actually work but merely seeks to reflect as a salary supplement the sort of workload that his job is likely to entail. The "open ended contract" which Professor Morris advocates

Safety precautions at safari park

From Mrs Maria W. Harnden
Sir, Several days ago I heard that a young keeper was killed by a tiger in Windsor Safari Park. It might be of some use if I were to tell you what happened to me there early last spring.

I had a cousin from Paris staying with me, and one rainy day we drove out to Windsor to see St George's Chapel and Queen Mary's Dolls' House. As the rain became a drizzle we decided to take a look at the animal, in the safari park before returning to London. Mine was the only car in the compound at the time, as evidently the bad weather had discouraged other visitors. We passed the tigers—I believe I saw two at a respectable distance—and we were amongst the lions. There were many of them, they lay about in elegant postures or sat on the lower branches of the trees on either side of the road. One large lion lay stretched across it. I was going very slowly, and when I reached him he stalked off, very discreetly.

Unfortunately we had to return the way we had come. This time "my" lion was back on the road, lying fully across it, and he evidently had no intention to move. On the contrary, he leaped on to the roof of the car, and pawed at its windshield, gnashing his teeth at us. My cousin likes cars, and found this larger specimen most attractive at close range. I prefer dogs. Furthermore, I was not at all sure the windshield would resist the weight of a full-grown lion, bent on getting at us.

There was not a keeper in sight. I decided to try the horn, very gingerly. I was instantly surrounded by at least a dozen lions, all pawing at us, and trying to jump up to the roof of the car, and the corner was already occupied. What now? A quick dash for it, with the hope that the lion in front would be shaken off eventually. But what if he were hurt? I put my foot on the accelerator hard, the lion clung on but did fall off pretty soon, though he ran alongside, looking very angry. When I got to the keepers' hut I was "not amused" and told this to the two young men who had taken shelter inside. I like to think it was the rain that had made the lion so irascible. They just laughed. I swore I would never take any children to Windsor Safari Park. Back in London nobody quite believed our story, but the large ruddy paw-prints all over my dark blue car were convincing enough. Sincerely, MARIA W. HARNDEN, 16 The Gateways, Sprimont Place, SW3, November 9.

Gossip columns

From Mr Nigel J. Seed
Sir, If Mr Watts (November 11) has read "Lady Windermere's Fan", he must surely know that the mongering is infinitely more objectionable than the scandal. Oscar Wilde puts Mr Rees-Bagg's case so succinctly: "Gossip is charming! History is merely gossip. But scandal is gossip made tedious by morality." Yours faithfully, NIGEL J. SEED, 29 Montpelier Square, SW7.

From Mr Nigel Dempster
Sir, I am indebted to PHS for bringing my name, column and newspaper to the attention of his readers for as far as fifth time this year but he appears to have missed my phrase "generated comment". It is true that I carried an item concerning Roy Mason, a Minister I admire much, two days after a similarly item appeared in PHS, of which I was aware at the time. But to construe my publication of the piece as generation of comment is risible. I stand by my words in UK Press Gazette, this week that PHS has not published one scoop in the two year period I have been editing the Mail daily while The Times has consistently followed up my exclusives for the benefit of its diminishing readership. Yours faithfully, NIGEL DEMPSTER, Daily Mail, Carmelite House, EC4, November 12.

Cats and dogs

From Mr John Wall
Sir, The modern legal aspect should not be forgotten; Scottish pounds here designated as shillings. A doctor briefed us as follows: "One of my patients called to consult me at my surgery; the morning was extremely wet and blustery and as he entered my front garden gate, which he had down against the wind, he fell. He had not noticed, fell from the top of the gate on to his head knocking off his glasses, which were damaged, and will require replacement." The patient thought the doctor should pay. Our Scottish legal advisers were consulted. No, they said, the doctor was not liable for the deterioration of the gate or the injury to the patient's glasses. Now, if it had been his cat... This precedent does not of course bind doctors, but it does bind the medical profession which includes the University of Oxford. Yours faithfully, JOHN WALL, The Medical Defence Union, 3 Deodar Road, W1, November 11.

From Mr Michael B. Rubinstein
Sir, Did you read the letter on August 22, 1975, The Times reported the shooting by a bound ("accidentally") of the joint Minister of the Devon and Somerset Staghounds and the huntmen? It might be thought in a progress only to have that achievement over 20 years later. But is there not a real danger of some bound shooting Mr Levin deliberately? Yours faithfully, MICHAEL RUBINSTEIN, 5 and 6 Raymond Buildings, Gray's Inn, WC1, November 10.

uth from the trenches

at War and
Memory
Fussell
(50)
deal of Alfred

As he points out, the Great War was the most literary of all wars. A large number of the men at the front were familiar with the great classics (Penguin's Progress, for instance, was so well known that even popular newspapers quoted from it without explanation). Soldiers taking advantage of the good daily postal service between the front and London, a mere 70 miles away, corrected proofs, read the TLS on its day of issue, or ordered books from Hatchards—Wells, Russell, Henry James, Marx, Massfield, Meredith.

Professor Fussell sets out to show how this "literary" bent affected the war memoirs and sometimes falsified them. He faults several books formerly accepted as "true" records, taking Robert Graves' *Good-bye to All That*, for instance, and clearly demonstrating how it was fictionalized or invented incidents for comic or ironic effect. He is good, too, on the romance of the front—the Housemanly world of handsome blonde "lads" and "soldiers' families." He shows how the prose of the men who survived was influenced not only by their own reading, but by reaction against the jargon and obfuscation of official language (in communiqués from the front reports of "sharp" or "brisk" fighting meant, precisely, that about 50 per cent of a company had been

killed or wounded in a raid). The book has twin attributes: it provides a fine analysis of the use of language and incidentally but inevitably gives one of the most vivid accounts I know of what the first world war was "like" for those who fought it.

In August 1914 a London coroner found that a man had committed suicide because of "worry caused by the feeling that he was not going to be accepted for service." Alfred M. Hale (whose memoirs Professor Fussell found at the War Museum, and has edited) was conscripted in 1917 at the age of 41. A gentle, introverted musician, he became a war correspondent, and a Mr Potter in uniform whose every word, every move, ended in farcical disaster. Yet his spirit was sound enough; he had every moment of his service, but if he had ever found himself in the front line, he would have made himself go "over the top" (even if he would have sort of inevitably in the wrong direction, and singlehandedly attacked his own G.H.Q.). It is a peculiar, moving, often very funny memoir; of no great importance, but truer to life than many better pieces of writing.

Derek Parker



Posed for publicity

Firebird transcendent

Edith Wharton
By R. W. B. Lewis

(*Constable, £6.50*)

"The firebird perches on my shoulder," wrote Henry James nervously to a mutual bachelor friend during a visit from Edith Wharton (they had all seen Diaghilev's great triumph) and the firebird was only one of many elaborate figures—Atila, Tamburlaine, a vessel fully rigged—within which even her dearest friends sought to contain her phenomenal energy and will to disturb. "She rode the whirlwind," James continued to another correspondent when she had gone and Lamb House was calm again.

She played with the storm, the odd waste whatever of the land the other raging elements had spared, she consumed in 15 days what would have taken an ordinary Christian community 11 months to regulate and occupy and, quite them) for about 10 years. Her power of devotion is ineffable, her reputation of repose absolutely tragic and she was and is the most brilliant and able and interesting.

This extravagant reaction—more fluttering avian, indeed, than the dazle of any firebird—tells us more about James than about Wharton (sexual panic, R. W. B. Lewis suggests, and he was also hypersensitive to her wealth); but it remains a fact that the author of *The House of Mirth* (1905) and *The Age of Innocence* (1920) touches no memoir of her contemporaries, however glancingly, without enlivening it (recent examples, Lord Clark's *Another Part of the Wood* and Sybil Beddington's *Life of Alfred Huxley*) and that she usually does so in

the terms James laid down for her, striding grandly about, making remarks. We turn to Edith Wharton (1862-1937) in any index for much the same reasons that we turn to Byron, Strachey and Pakenham, in hope of pursuit of some loquacious outrage or good joke. But is she quite what she seems?

She is not. That she was in fact more brilliant and able and interesting than even Henry James could know is the proposition of Professor Lewis's riveting if uneven and sometimes long-winded book. Both Percy Lubbock and Louis Auchincloss wrote useful and idiosyncratic memoirs, and the latter in 1972 used some of the most unfamiliar photographs—of which my favourite catches Edith at 43 standing under a tree at Lenox, watching her house being built and drawing with a nervous but slightly amateurish voracity upon a furtive cigarette—but the main bulk of her papers did not become available at Yale until 1968, and this is the first true biography.

Despite its inaccessibility, *Edith Wharton* has been well worth the wait, for Mrs Wharton, whose own autobiography is so recent about herself in her lifetime, was ready for posterity's Professor; she had put her house most carefully in order, which in her case meant throwing away a remarkably little away. The image is reverberantly apt for a writer whose most consistently fertile metaphor for the human soul, above all the female soul, is of a house with so many floors and rooms that some of them are never opened to the light of day. Professor Lewis, with her help, throws back quite a few doors and shutters.

A pity, then, that *Edith Wharton* is disfigured by amazing day mistakes. *Le nouveau de Rameau*, Trinity Hall College, Lock Barn, Neoplaton, Thomas Carlisle, Rumor Godden, Gothic for Gothic, Essex for Sussex—which, perhaps insignificant in themselves, occur in such profusion that they distract the reader's confidence alarmingly. *Ethan Frome* (1911) one of the most perfectly told and deeply felt tales of this century, is less than a hundred pages long, and none of Edith Wharton's best work, not even the supposedly Jamesian comedies like *The Custom of the Country* (1913), is prolific in any way. She refined sharply. This is one of the reasons that makes the biography seem much too long—more than 600 pages with index, acknowledgments, and

bibliography—and unnecessarily discursive along a life span (Lincoln to Hitler, Hawthorne to Joyce) all too full of opportunities to digress. Professor Lewis even reminds us of the plot of *Gentlemen Prefer Blondes* in order to demonstrate why it appealed so much to the New York literary establishment and to Edith Wharton, in particular.

Lewis's major discovery—and it is a sensational one—is that long after her barely consummated marriage to place, simple Teddy Wharton had dried into a mere appearance, Edith felt passionately in love and sustained a glorious physical affair with one Morton Fullerton, seemingly the male equivalent of a *grande horizontale*, an American actor as Paris respondent of *The Times*. Fullerton had also known Wilde and been the lover of the sculptor Ronald Gover. He was apparently being blackmailed by one of his rejected women and turned for money to James and Edith Wharton. Dame Rebecca West does not believe that story and has suggested that the blackmailer was Fullerton himself.

The affair with Edith, starting in 1908, seems to have gone on for three or four years, to have ended without pain and to have benefited the work enormously. She wrote a daily journal to Fullerton at the time (not showing it to him) and several remarkable poems, including "Terminus," 52 long lines which she wrote sitting up in bed after spending the night with Fullerton in the Charing Cross Hotel. "Terminus," begins in gratitude, but swiftly widens its range to an immense compassion for her last few years and unknown predecessors in that room, a compassion she consciously inherited from Whitman, of all American writers the one with whom she identified most closely (we knew this already, so how could we ever have supposed her to be frigid?).

The most remarkable thing about "Terminus," the Journal to Fullerton and the photographic fragments scattered in the book, is not that she wrote them at all but that she rewrote and corrected them, clearly regarding them as part of her main work, if not publishable while she lived. She had the body electric charged to her creative purpose, and in the hands of posterity's Professor, becomes the firebird transcendent.

Michael Ratcliffe

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use of humour reveal? Are you tough or tender
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alone, such as tax consultants, television stars and the like, named as a myopic meteorologist, are always noted although they gradually shut themselves off from outsiders; Dr Laing is a divorced physiologist. A frigid sense of status is not only in his head but built into the architecture by a top man who dominates the top floor. In isolation, aggression becomes the main means of gregariousness. The three social classes that form then split into wild clans who, in the end, other with candlesticks and knives, promote grisly fantasies and while the shopping mall, school and all services break down, dust like stone from begins to ooze from the walls.

Unpredictable resilience is very much alive in Forbes Bramble's *The Strange Case of Deacon Brodie*. Robert Stevenson based his tale of Jekyll and Hyde on the facts of Deacon William Brodie's double life, or conflict with overwhelming righteousness, in Edinburgh of the 1780s. Now Mr Bramble has re-created an altogether more intelligent, credible and better humoured portrait. His writing is exact, with sparing flourishes of authentic dialogue well set in vigorous scenes of gaming, cock-fighting and local politics.

William Brodie, a respected cabinet maker, is respected (or is he?) at the age of 48 on a public scaffold he helped to design and make; he has been a fastidious, generous craftsman, dressed in white, dandy silks by day and changing at night into something more comfortable: a highwayman's black cloak, crêpe mask, brace of pistols, and so on. Three professional criminals help him rob shops, the university, the excise office. There will be such a greivous and starting the morrow that Edinburgh has never seen! he says, rightly. There are also many fresh, helpful insights into what has been regarded as his clear case of schizophrenia. For Deacon won't be caught that easily. With 40,000 spectators watching the hangman readjust his noose three times, even his end is as mysterious as his beginning and middle for he manages to swallow a silver tube—literally, a type of silver spoon—to prevent his trachea from breaking.

Myrna Blumberg
Seed time
The Garden Calendar
1751-1771
By Gilbert White
Introduction by John Clegg
(Scolar Press, £14.50)

The garden book of Wakes, Selborne, is a fascinating, clear, not antiquated, Plunge at once into the England of, as it might be, yesterday. White, like us, is venturesome: sowed "two rows of Bosworth's white. Dutch Cucumbers were never sowed before in England", and above this entry a neat little pointing hand and the sad (and how familiar!) words "never came up". And is there not a certain consolatory note in "St Mar: Featherstone's Cantaleupes, I hear, have very little flavour"? Melons and cucumbers are crops of prime importance: vast raised beds, cardinals, during, 14 people, an experiment with cucumber seeds by the parlour fire, "a melon paper-house... to be covered with the best writing paper".

He made a baba; set up a figure of the Hermit. He cut, painted on board, eight feet high... looks like a statue"; cultivated his vines "according to Hitt"; gossiped with Philip Miller; weeded and divided and planned and extended—impossible to tell in brief the multifariousness of his employments. Best of all in this treasurable book is to learn that the weather was every bit as bad as ours. Thus, April 2, 1751, "Sad wet, cold weather, & constant high winds... for three weeks past"; April 5, "Unusual Hot weather this week"; and April 21, "Snowed very hard for sixteen hours".

Jan Stephens

In his own image

Jonathan Swift
By A. L. Rowse

(*Thames & Hudson, £9.95*)

Forty years ago, as a young man, A. L. Rowse first thought of writing a life of Swift, to date he has expressed this ambition only in essays. Now he has created himself to the pleasure of a full length biography, and it is his sense of personal enjoyment and involvement that makes this a distinctly easy study. So decided are Dr Rowse's opinions that his biography suggests it was written off the cuff at great speed. Such enthusiasm makes for easy reading, and whether or not scholars will concur with Dr Rowse, there is little doubt about his popular appeal. Dr Rowse is nothing if not magnificently positive: there is no take it or leave it about him—he tells us how and where to look.

Swift was not a pleasant man (however socially charming he may have been on occasion), and Dr Rowse castigates him thoroughly for his vanity, envy, choleric temper, resentfulness, lack of charity, and scatology. All this he ascribes to Swift's fatherless and penniless beginnings, which, when allied to his devouring ambition, made him grudgingly grateful for the beneficial patronage of Sir William Temple, whose protégé and secretary he was. A position of service which, in spite of high hopes, brought Swift only an Irish chaplaincy, though later he rose to shine as "the great" Dean of St Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin. "A Prometheus chained to his rock in Ireland", is how Dr Rowse puts it, and, with dramatic skill, he takes us through Swift's political manoeuvres for preferment; his relationships with both Godolphin and Harley are vividly reconstructed showing Swift to have been an adept if spiky courtier.

Inevitably Swift's intimacies with Stella and Vanessa attract continuous accusation, and Dr Rowse is quite splendid about Swift's tortuous involvement with both women. He stresses that Vanessa was not Stella's social equal and that his approach to Stella was ever to

be that of the avuncular tutor (which he was when Stella occupied a similar position to himself in Sir William's household), and that Vanessa was self-willed, accustomed to rule, while Stella was accustomed to listen. Swift's *Journal to Stella* (with all its baby-language) was, in part, for her edification and his own self-esteem; she would not believe he controlled "the corridors of power". Vanessa's passion was rather more that Swift bargained for, and she was a show-off (he alone wished to show off). Swift enjoyed being courted by women, but usually ran miles away. Literally on several occasions when fervours were high, Dr Rowse is not convinced Swift did marry Stella (even as a sop to her natural jealousy of Vanessa); if so, it was decidedly unconsummated, as Swift was more of a secret tease than anything else. Dr Rowse appears to understand Swift's sexual hang-up very well; he draws a very unavoury card.

Where Dr Rowse really goes to town is when he comes to examine and summarise Swift's opinions on society as exemplified in *A Tale of a Tub* and *Gulliver's Travels*. This is where the "major prophet" sub-title of his biography is given muscle. Dr Rowse's quite vehement identification with Swift's views enables him to parallel these with his own "Bed as it is today to live in a society of Liberal 'cans'". "What would Swift have thought of a society like today's, where people are swaddled in social insurance from the cradle to the grave?"

Through Swift Dr Rowse expresses his deep distaste for what he feels about society. He does not forget to highlight Swift's revulsion for all physical contact such as Gulliver's horror at being manhandled by the Maids of Honour.

Often strip me naked from top to toe, and lay me at full length in their bosoms... would sometimes set me aside upon one of her nipples with many tricks, wherein the reader will excuse me for not being over-particular.

Shades of the "permissive" society abhorred by Dr Rowse.

Kay Dick

Brilliantine and swagger



Marc's Previn, alias Preview, now Prevalent

The Fate of Felicity
Fark in the Land of the
Media

By Clive James

Illustrations by Marc
(Cape, £1.95)

Because of Marc's clever cartoons accompanying the text, this longish effort in rhyming couplets has attracted more attention than is usual with a book of new verse. It does not really merit it, although Mr James has lost none of the brilliantine which came so naturally to him when at Cambridge and his malicious

little portraits of television and other nonentities are occasionally amusing in a very tiny way. The satire on the world of the media is less successful than that in his earlier poem *Paraphrase Puck's Pilgrimage Through the London Literary World*, where his targets were less transparent, and where the verse had rather more panache of at least swag. Comparisons with Pope and Byron would be premature. Kinder to what and when he grows up, or down, or in whatever direction his uniquely artificial and self-willed talent decides to go.

Robert Nye

On Monday, Sheridan Morley reviews five books on Stuart Garland. On Thursday Richard Holmes on John Sturdy Mill.

First class mail

Frey Stark Letters

Vol 2. The Open Door 1930-35
Edited by Lucy Moorehead
(Compton, Russell, £7.25)

Good morning letters from Freya! The first volume, published last year, left our heroine on the brink of her adventurous fulfilment, and your reviewer, after a sceptical start, altogether won over by her frankness and developing wisdom. This year's mail is better still, for by 1930 Miss Stark was rising 40, had long outgrown the gaucheries of her complicated youth, and had acquired that particular blend of the serene, the high-spirited, the sage and the appealing which was to remain her literary and her philosophical style.

The *Open Door* is well named, for, in this collection, Freya Stark is describing bold excursions into the world of exploration—her pioneering journey into Luristan, her celebrated but ill-fated first expedition into North Arabia. She is her own woman now, so that Lucy Moorehead has an easier time with the explanatory footnotes; and the predominant tone of the book indeed is one of break-away, of independence, physical and spiritual, and a powerful sense of discovery. Sometimes Miss Stark does rather wistfully ponder advantages of the married state, and she often has trouble with bruised or tired suitors, but she has achieved a balance in herself, and communicates it calmly in her letters.

Most readers will chiefly admire her courage, and especially courage in the face of illness—for ill-health dogged her in the most appalling circumstances, snatched by malaria at Siabab, or nearly dead from measles in a harem of Hadramaut. This is nothing to do with being a woman—experience tells me that on the whole the most convenient start for travelling is that of a well-disposed lady in middle life. It is just plain bravery, all the more marvellous because it is sustained by the liveliest of imaginations, so that Freya Stark can foresee the worst as vividly as your wettest hypochondriac.

For myself, though, I enjoyed these demonstrations less than Dame Freya's wonderful canons of imperial, or at least mandatory, life between the wars—staying with Anton Besse at Aiden, sub-editing for the *Baghdad Times*, waiting for the P and O at the Hotel Sinai, or bumping into the Duchess of Bedford in Cook's camp at Petra. They are vicious, intimate glimpses of an altogether vanished age, and enjoying them one after another during a week's happy reading took me back to another half-forgotten era too—the days when people not only wrote long, chatty, informative letters to their friends, but could actually afford to post them.

Jan Morris

Rudyard Kipling and his World, by Kingsley Amis (Thames & Hudson, £3.50). Bad luck for Mr Amis that Philip Mason's book on Kipling came out earlier this year—by comparison this biographical sketch and critical appraisal (lavishly illustrated) seems rather tenuous. He has some interesting, if controversial points to make, in that he feels Kipling could be the origin for the haunted house in "The House Surgeon". He prefers the early stories, Kim, and the poetry—remaining dismissive of the later stories (which many think Kipling's finest achievement) and convinced that Kipling was the only man who understood and described the Empire. Mr Amis is curiously tentative in his approach, telling us to "see page 106" as if we were unable to carry the argument through so short (114 pages) a book without reminder. But no one has ever agreed entirely about Kipling: Quot homines, tot sententiae.

Miss Read Battles At Thrush Green

"The latest in her evocative and captivating stories of village country life... the characters are warmly drawn and care for one another."

Woman and Home

Norman Painting Forever Ambridge:

Twenty-Five Years of the Archers—The story of *The Archers*' incredible quarter of a century, told by Norman Painting who has played Philip Archer since the beginning.

"An affectionate view of radio's most loved and most familiar programme." Alice Hope.

Daily Telegraph

Margaret Wilkins A Family Affair

The mother whose family life became the subject of the award-winning BBC TV series *The Family* tells the moving story of her personal struggle against the drabness of ordinary life.

Margaret Powell Albert, My Consort

The life and times of her husband Albert and more of the Below Stairs world which launched her career as a bestselling author.

"Margaret Powell's fans—and they are legion—will love it!"

Liverpool Post

Michael Joseph

DONALD COGGAN Convictions

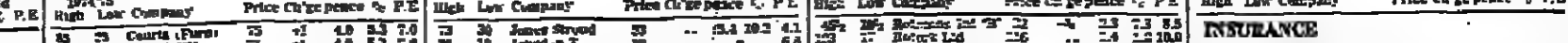
His first major book as Archbishop of Canterbury illustrating the fundamental beliefs of his life and ministry.

"Very valuable volume... distinguished by a refreshing clarity of thought and expression... a capacity for keeping a true balance between religion and life... never superficial... most warmly commended to all Christian readers"

Church Times

Hodder & Stoughton

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.



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Marylebone Road, London NW1

Varley set clash after fusion on pyard's future

By David Blake

Employed by the Drypool shipbuilding group on Humberside last night that it was to be excluded from the Government's list of companies to be nationalized.

Mr. Varley, who is Secretary of State for Industry, declared that no decision had been taken on the future of the company. He said that the company was not happy about the Drypool facilities and that it was likely to be excluded from the Government's list of companies to be nationalized.

Mr. Varley and the Humberside County Council, which was represented at yesterday's talks, are pressing the department to form a new company to acquire Drypool's assets from Mr. Smith and hold them until the nationalization plan is realized.

Mr. Varley said: "I think the common sense of the situation is that the Government should not be asked to take a decision on the future of the company until the nationalization plan is realized."

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Sainsbury pre-tax profits fall by 23.7 pc

By David Blake

Sainsbury, the supermarket chain, yesterday reported a 23.7 per cent fall in its pre-tax profits from £7.52m to £5.74m. The figure was a surprise, as the company had been expected to show a significant improvement in profits in the current six months.

Underwriting losses at GA so far this year have risen to £20.4m against £500,000 last year, although investment income showed a 61 per cent increase to £30.6m.

However, the market was relieved that the figures were not accompanied by a rights issue and the shares remained unchanged on the day at 180p. Unilever added some sparkle by exceeding its own and market forecasts with a 38 per cent rise in third quarter pre-tax profits from £79.2m to £108.9m.

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Chrysler crisis may strengthen case for import restrictions on cars

By David Blake

Officials in Whitehall yesterday indicated that it was unlikely that any announcement on import restrictions would be made this week, but there has been a clear study of the problem.

The problem posed to British Leyland by the risk that Japanese manufacturers might sign dealer networks if the company closes its manufacturing operations in the United Kingdom may play a part in a future government decision on import controls.

Although these fears are not universally shared, in government itself, the risk is thought to have strengthened the hand of those who favour including cars in the list of products to be covered if import restrictions are introduced, as seems increasingly possible in the light of the statement by Mr. Denis Healey, the Chancellor, on Tuesday night to back-bench Labour.

Even with a limit on the duration of restrictions, there would still be a problem caused by the right of other GATT countries to demand compensation for the damage suffered by their industries. If this cannot be agreed, the other nations would have the right to retaliate by imposing restrictions on British exports, though in international trade circles there seems to be a feeling that there would be great reluctance to do this.

It has also become clear that any restrictions would be directed just as much against European producers as against Japanese manufacturers. In the case of cars, for example, European makers have a much larger share of the market than the Japanese companies have. In another industry which is receiving serious consideration, domestic electrical appliances, the vast majority of imported refrigerators and washing machines come from Italy, an EEC member.

Any restrictions would probably be only for a strictly limited period, since the Government's policy is that action should only be taken to protect those industries which have a future once the present short-term crisis is over.

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Sales in Britain stay steady despite threat

By David Blake

Chrysler UK, whose future operations are still shrouded in uncertainty, sold almost 1,300 British-built cars in the first 10 days of this month and managed to hold on to its 6.5 per cent share of the market.

A large proportion of Chrysler's registrations in the 10-day period would have resulted from sales made by dealers before the full extent of the company's deep financial problems became apparent. But the figures do indicate that

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Hope of lending rate cut spurs sale of gilts

By David Blake

Carried along by speculation about a drop in interest rates, the Government sold a further large volume of bonds yesterday, raising the possibility that a second "tap" stock could be exhausted this week.

The City is now convinced that the minimum lending rate, the Treasury 11 per cent, will be reduced by a percentage point to 10 per cent sometime this week. The move is expected to be made for internal reasons, particularly to limit the build up of bank deposits and contain the growth in the money supply.

However, the Treasury has also been under pressure to defend the pound against the need to be more important motives in some City quarters.

Since then United States interest rates have weakened markedly.

Only last Monday, the short-dated "tap" stock (a stock fed to the market from the Government Broker's portfolio) was exhausted.

It now seems possible that the medium-term "tap" stock, Treasury 11 per cent, 1981, which has been on offer only since early October, will also be fully exhausted. These two stocks would represent combined sales of £1,000m.

Any cut in the lending rate this week would come only six weeks after it was raised by a full percentage point to 12 per cent. At the time, government officials said the move was made for internal reasons, particularly to limit the build up of bank deposits and contain the growth in the money supply.

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State oil body goes into business today

By David Blake

Negotiations aimed at giving the Government a 51 per cent controlling interest in 10 North Sea oilfields enter a new phase this week. Today British National Oil Corporation comes into being and Lord Kearton, its chairman, will assume a big role in the protracted talks with the oil companies on participation.

The crucial factor, expected to revitalize the participation talks, is the granting of the Royal Assent to the Petroleum and Submarine Pipelines Bill which provides a legal basis for BNOC and government policy for controlling the development of offshore oil and gas.

Seven companies that have agreed to the principle of a partnership with BNOC will come under pressure to conclude a detailed agreement while the companies, including all the American multinationals,

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Receiver puts Norton deficiency at £3.87m

By David Blake

A total deficiency of £3,870,182 was revealed yesterday at the first meeting of creditors and shareholders of Norton Villiers & Totten motor cycle company.

More than 200 people—many of them former employees—attended the meeting, at Central Hall, Westminster.

Referring to the workers' occupation of the company's factory at Marston Road, Wolverhampton, Mr. J. B. Clementson, the Senior Official Receiver, said neither his staff nor the directors had been able to get access to the company's books of account and computer records. As a result he could not guarantee the accuracy of any figures he gave.

A resolution was passed for the appointment of Mr. Kenneth Morgan, a Cardiff chartered accountant, as liquidator. Mr. Geoffrey Byng, QC, who has been acting for the dismissed workers, said yesterday they had wanted Mr. Morgan to run the liquidation.

Mr. Byng said he held the proxy votes of 823 creditors for a total of £488,126. About 780 of them were former employees.

In his prepared statement, Mr. Clementson said the assets of the company were £2,045,979. Profits were earned in 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960 and 1964, but heavy losses were sustained in 1961, 1962 and 1963.

Mr. Clementson said that, according to the company's accounts, a profitable organization was built up in the early 1970s.

Then BSA ran into difficulties and a new company was formed, with government aid, to acquire the BSA business. From 1973 onwards Norton Villiers had severe problems, and a weakening of the company's American market, Japanese competition and the short working week increased the difficulties.

The company suffered heavy losses and its reserves were under severe pressure, which became unworkable when the Export Guarantee Credit of £4m was withdrawn. On August 1 the company presented its own petition, and was wound up on October 15.

According to the European Commission, imports of synthetic yarn have risen substantially in recent months to reach one-third of total domestic production in Britain and France.

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Seven companies that have agreed to the principle of a partnership with BNOC will come under pressure to conclude a detailed agreement while the companies, including all the American multinationals,

Negotiations aimed at giving the Government a 51 per cent controlling interest in 10 North Sea oilfields enter a new phase this week. Today British National Oil Corporation comes into being and Lord Kearton, its chairman, will assume a big role in the protracted talks with the oil companies on participation.

The crucial factor, expected to revitalize the participation talks, is the granting of the Royal Assent to the Petroleum and Submarine Pipelines Bill which provides a legal basis for BNOC and government policy for controlling the development of offshore oil and gas.

Inquiry chief for PO is named

By David Blake

Mr. Charles Carter, Vice-Chancellor of Lancaster University, who has been asked to head a committee to review the performance and main features of the Post Office and its use of resources and assets.

Mr. Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, said yesterday it would also consider the functions under the Post Office Act, 1969.

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

The next stage of Unilever's recovery

now well into its recovery, a 38 per cent increase in third quarter pre-tax profits reflects big lower raw material costs, higher volume of the "excellent" of the ice cream and extraordinary performance. But the significant third-quarter statement in its revelation of here is still to come, and Africa Company in substantially improved, thanks principally to booming Nigerian and detergent and arsons are doing last year. But the and dairy business money, with T. Walls yet to be. And so far the actual division, one contributors last year, thing of the upturn to be expected on recovery. So the good for which the dently set will be by he and of the story, and, with something (as against £333m) cards for the cur- and £400m in pro- 1976, the question o whether there is to go for in the vth the prospective is permitted payout per cent, they are ced for rather more a recovery; and un- ar's cycles ending up animity which at was unlikely, more- with the market that can be expected.



Mr John Sainsbury, chairman of J. Sainsbury: a first half set back.

and there must still be a strong argument for some longer-term financing for expansion.

But for the moment there seems little in the way of attraction, and something in the way of a question mark over the high-rating enjoyed by the shares, which stood at 148p yesterday, and prospectively yield 5 per cent.

Interim 1975-76 (1974-75)
Capitalization £122.7m
Sales £276m (£231m)
Pre-tax profits £57.4m (£7.52m)
Dividend gross 2.54p (2.23p)

Western American

Hambros pulls out

Hambros was very much a motive force behind the formation of Western American Bank (Europe) back in 1968, and originally held a 28 per cent interest. But well before the crisis year of 1974 it had decided to cash in on its investment and, indeed, had taken the first step towards disengagement by selling part of its stake to Bank of Tokyo (cutting its overall holding to 10 per cent) as early as 1972.

There cannot have been much incentive to stay on. In the halcyon growth days up to last year WAB was an aggressive and very big leader in the Euro-market and to that extent provided a complementary arm to Hambros' existing Eurocurrency activities. But after 1974's sobering experience WAB has been obliged to see itself less as a lending business and more as a straight-through merchant bank specialising in international medium-term finance.

WAB's new role brings it much more directly into competition with Hambros' own international operations, however. On the same grounds that Rothschild found little point in staying in Rothschild International Bank, another directly competing consortium bank, it would have made little sense for Hambros to continue in WAB.

General Accident

Looking to the US recovery

General Accident's third quarter underwriting deterioration in the United Kingdom was nasty though exaggerated by factors which were hopelessly exceptional. Certainly, the market preferred to concentrate on the slowly improving United States underwriting trend that GA confirms for the composite sector, and the shares closed unchanged at 160p.

In sterling terms the United States underwriting loss during the first three quarters of this year has been £3.9m, £3.5m, and £3m respectively—thus

£10.4m for the nine months. However, the declining sterling/dollar exchange rate masks the underlying improvement and, adjusted, the figures should read £4.6m, £3.4m and £2.4m. The United States operating ratio also shows the true trend, and that has fallen to 108.7 per cent for GA in the third quarter against 109.4 and 107.2 per cent respectively in the first two quarters.

Behind GA's United States improvement is, of course, the East Coast state motor rate increases now coming through almost weekly, though because of the 12 months' delay between "written" and "earned" it will be 1976 before the full underwriting improvement is seen.

The United Kingdom underwriting loss has jumped from £3.3m at the half-way stage to £8.6m at the nine months, though around £1.5m of this £5.3m third quarter jump will have arisen from GA's exposure to exceptionally heavy fire losses in August. The property account failed to cushion the United Kingdom motor and liability accounts in the third quarter and experience has been severely eroded by the slump and it has now come to recognize that it simply lacks the financial strength to go forward with all the developments that it considers to be essential.

Nine months: 1975 (1974)
Capitalization £204m
Net written premiums £345.3m (£279.5m)
Pre-tax profits £10.2m (£24.6m)

Spillers

Rights sums

The only surprise in Spillers two-for-seven rights issue to raise £12.4m is that it has taken so long to come, especially when last month's excellent interim results appeared to be a heaven-sent opportunity to approach the market. No doubt, though, Spillers was anxious to see a firmer trend established in the equity market after Rank's McGonigal's chastening experience.

When the less than rapturous response to the issue depressed the shares perilously close to the offer price. Again, perhaps with the RHM issue in mind, Spillers is doing its utmost to convince shareholders that its fund-raising exercise has nothing to do with reducing short-term borrowings. Instead, Spillers is making the sort of positive noises—increasing the equity base, . . . to take advantage of opportunities for developing the group's business both at home and overseas—that it hopes will be music to shareholders' ears.

Nevertheless, there are some cogent reasons for strengthening the capital base in the balance sheet where borrowings have mushroomed over the past couple of years, particularly at the shorter end which accounted for £43m of the £59.5m total in the last balance sheet. The trend here has been more encouraging lately underlined by the drop in interest charges at the interim stage; net short-term borrowings at the end of October had dropped £4m to £53.2m. The proposed rights issue will trim net gearing further to 28.5 per cent.

After some initial weakness yesterday the shares closed unchanged at 47½—a fair indication that with Schroders and Cazenove backing the market expects the issue will be successful. And while a profit forecast of £15.7m pre-tax for the full year is below some higher outside estimates, Spillers confirms that the dividend will be raised by the maximum allowed to put the shares on a yield of 8.1 per cent.

Frank Vogl, in Washington, gives an American view of the Chrysler crisis

US car makers heading for recovery

Chrysler Corporation's determination to end once and for all its difficulties in Britain, is primarily the product of the worst slump that the American car market has seen since the Second World War. The sharp decline in the United States new car sales in the past two years has weakened all the major Detroit car companies.

More importantly, the combination of high oil prices, inflation and recession, has brought significant changes in consumer tastes, and the companies that are now succeeding in the United States market are those that can offer a wide range of cars and particularly models that are much smaller and more fuel-efficient than what Americans call the "gas-guzzlers" of the past.

For Chrysler to maintain a similar share of the United States market it must invest heavily in the creation of a completely new model programme. Its financial base has been severely eroded by the slump and it has now come to recognize that it simply lacks the financial strength to go forward with all the developments that it considers to be essential.

A major long-term problem for the company has been its activities in Britain and the losses there, which have risen year upon year and have added significantly to the company's American problems and weakened the corporation as a whole.

Chrysler has had total losses so far this year of \$253m (about £123m) of which roughly one-sixth has been accounted for by its British subsidiary. The slump the company can make the investments needed to retain a strong position in the United States market if losses in Britain continue at such a rate.

One strategy for Chrysler would be to find some sort of interim solution to ensure at least the medium-term survival of Chrysler in Britain.

This would be done in the hope that a year or two from now the finances of Chrysler would be strong enough to allow the company to make a decision on whether to continue in Britain or not. The position of the Chrysler Corporation is less serious than it might seem, because it still has a large credit line available to it of \$500m (£270m) and insiders suggest that the majority of this has not yet been drawn upon.

These credit lines are one reason for suggesting that the company's financial strength may well improve substantially, because they provide the support essential to get through the present crisis. In addition, and perhaps of equal importance, is the fact that at long last there are now signs that the United States slump is coming to an end and that the next year or two will see a sharp rise in United States new car sales.

United States new car demand is already reflecting rising real spendable incomes. An increasing number of industry leaders are optimistic that 1976 may see a 20 per cent increase in new car sales and that a further rise of more than one million units might be seen in 1977 to equal the record 11.4 million unit sales of 1973.

Optimism is based on the expectation that the United States recovery is going to be sustained, and that monetary and fiscal policy in the year ahead will be affected by the British subsidy and so strengthen the already visible trend of growing consumer spending.

All the Detroit companies are making sure that they do not make the same mistake as they did last year when their optimism about the future, which proved to be unjustified, led them to over-produce and, as a result, build massive stocks of cars and trucks.

Thus despite renewed optimism and good recent sales, the manufacturers have decided to produce fewer cars this month than in any November since 1959, and they hope this will lead to a much healthier balance between new output and stocks of cars with dealers.

Chrysler has suffered more than any of its rivals in the past two years and thus is being forced to be even more cautious than the rest. It does not have a market-leading small car in its stable of models, as does the smaller American Motors Corporation, nor does it have the great reserves that are enjoyed by its bigger rivals, Ford and General Motors.

The future for the United States car industry looks a lot brighter now than it did even a few months ago. But experts at Ford and General Motors admit that the market is going to be a tougher place, especially as the foreign manufacturers, with their appealing small family cars, have gained market share which has risen to about 20 per cent from around 14 per cent.

The foreigners have spent heavily and firmly entrenched themselves, with some notable success, in the United States market, which because of its financial problems has decided to pull out of the United States small family car market, despite the great success of its rivals here.

Against this background Chrysler's managers know that the future could produce healthy profits so long as the company can widen its appeal and become more competitive with its rivals in the foreign and domestic markets. The company must get cracking on its investment programme and to do this it must be freed of the burden of repetitive large losses in certain areas, such as Britain.

Chrysler has decided on a four-point programme for the rest of the decade, which, given the plans of the other United States manufacturers, is no more than adequate to ensure a profitable share of the American market.

The programme's main features are:

1. A totally new American-produced small car with front-wheel drive and a four-cylinder transversely mounted engine.

2. A totally new small family car, including a sports coupe model.

3. A totally new full-size, six-seater, economy car.

4. A totally new line of models for the luxury end of the large car market sector.

This programme for the next five years will involve investment spending of at least \$1500m (£728m). But it is a programme that can only be financed by a company that is profitable. Chrysler believes it is now turning the corner from its large losses to growing profits but its ambitions may be hampered by the continuing troubles in Britain.

Chrysler needs a breathing space to gear up to a more competitive position in America and only once it has attained such a position could it adequately cope on a long-term and constructive basis with its British subsidiary and the other trade unions and British Government do not help Chrysler to find that breathing space, then Chrysler will close its United Kingdom plants.

The sheep masquerading in wolf's clothing

It is well known that wolves may, on occasions, don sheep's clothing; and this is not an irrational or unnatural proceeding for a predator who wishes for time to sort out the fastest prey. It would, however, be foolish for the wolf to appear so attired among his own kind, inviting, as he would, at worst injury and at best ridicule.

How much more foolish would it be for a sheep to go among wolves in *puris naturalibus*. So it may be, despite popular prejudice to the contrary, that a sheep may affect a lupine exterior for reasons of self-protection, or even in order to tease his own kind. And so it is with the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

It is, therefore, necessary to remind oneself from time to time, particularly at times when the unreason of the Chancellor's pronouncements penetrate deeply under the intelligent man's skin, that the actions of the beast tend much more strongly to the domesticated than to the ferocious. Beneath the grey pelt, bared fangs and swishing tail, there beats the ovine heart of a woolly friend of man that goes upon cloven hoof.

What, after all, was the right policy to deal with the situation which Mr Healey inherited nearly 20 months ago? It was gradually to bring down the super-inflationary growth of the money supply, while allowing the exchange rate to take the strain of any excess inflation in Britain over that in other countries, financing any balance of payments deficit that was the counterpart to the initial surplus of the oil producing countries and exhorting the trade unions not to price more of their members out of jobs than they found absolutely necessary.

Financial convulsion

To be sure, there were false starts. For a time it seemed that the declaration of money supply growth was too abrupt and in danger of causing a destructive financial convulsion. The first stab at price control and corporate taxation caused a nearly disastrous diversion of finance away from the corporate to the personal sector.

The first year's attempts to persuade trade unions from pricing their members out of their jobs were too feebly couched and anyway fell upon deaf ears, deepened in part by the fairly monthly reports of Mr Heath's threshold agreements being triggered with alarming rapidity. Even this was followed by a £5 limit on increases in a situation where any general increases could have no other overall effect than either to cause the unemployment of otherwise employable people or to force the Government to abandon its central strategy of monetary disinflation.

Moreover, government spending, both as planned in claims on real resources over the medium-term and as disbursed in actual cash in the current

year, swelled seriously out of line with any trend that could reasonably be accommodated to balance expansion of investment and exports in the medium term or to restrain of inflation in the short-term. At the same time an entirely inappropriate cut in value added tax was made in July, 1974, and has not yet been reversed.

Yet the essential profile of a coherent strategy has emerged, though constantly swathed in misleading rhetoric designed to put the wolves, with whom the Chancellor is constrained to hunt off the scent. The growth in the money supply has been brought down; and it matters not that foreign borrowing and weak demand for bank credit has contributed decisively to this end.

But the fact remains that we already have the deepest recession since the war, that the inflation of domestic costs is for the moment easing rapidly, that unprecedented constraints are being placed on central, local, and nationalized industry expenditure, in both the short and longer terms, and that no action has yet been taken, not even exported inflation, which commits the economy irrevocably to the course which we have most to fear, namely the next round of accelerating inflation. The sheep has not bitten yet.

Peter Jay

Economics Editor

While interest rates remain ridiculously low by any normal standard (probably still negative in real terms), the Chancellor has at least shown himself twice willing to raise interest rates where his predecessors would have vetoed, indeed did veto, such action. It is true that there are worrying signs now that in recent months the money supply may have resumed its upward path under the impact of the enormous public sector borrowing requirement, still not yet under proper control.

But it would be premature to conclude that the Chancellor who has so far set his face so adamantly against the reflation which all his predecessors undertook at comparable moments, is now preparing to abandon his strategy for which he has risked so much. We have already seen an unprecedented deployment of a form of cash limits on expenditure in the present year and have been promised formal publication of fairly comprehensive limits for next year.

Nationalized industries are being forced to raise their prices in order to cut their losses and even to cover cash-flow shortfalls caused by poor investment budgeting, as in the case of the Post Office. Provided that vital sales of state-owned securities are kept up by the Treasury, and that interest rates are allowed to rise as necessary, the incipient rise in the money supply can be checked.

If and when the demand for bank credit revives strongly, the Chancellor will need to be very tough indeed, perhaps even raising the banks' reserve ratios so that there cannot be a repetition of the credit explosion which caused so much damage in 1972-73. But it is not yet proven that Mr Healey will not take such action.

As far as the balance of payments is concerned, the deficit has been substantially reduced, the exchange rate has been eased downward in orderly fashion and a reasonable amount of long-term borrowing in relation to prospective earn-

ings from North Sea oil has been arranged (including the perfectly sensible, indeed overdue, decision to draw on the United Kingdom's routine overdraft facilities at the International Monetary Fund, about which much uninformed fuss is being made).

At the same time the Chancellor has so far resisted the option of import controls; and even contrived to give the impression that his hands are tied by circumstances beyond his control (a white lie, if ever there was one), while growing harmlessly about "selective" controls in order to keep up his wolfish image.

It is not a flawless record; and it offers no guarantee whatever that the Chancellor will not eventually be forced to turn into a wolf in order to avert growing suspicions among his adopted brethren. Indeed, that remains the probable outcome on any normal reading of political imperatives.

But the fact remains that we already have the deepest recession since the war, that the inflation of domestic costs is for the moment easing rapidly, that unprecedented constraints are being placed on central, local, and nationalized industry expenditure, in both the short and longer terms, and that no action has yet been taken, not even exported inflation, which commits the economy irrevocably to the course which we have most to fear, namely the next round of accelerating inflation. The sheep has not bitten yet.

Negative strategy

It is, of course, a negative strategy; but then normal conditions require negative remedies. Accelerating inflation is a mortal condition both economically and politically; and there is no remedy for it but monetary starvation.

Unquestionably this has highly debilitating side-effects on the patient; and there is no merit (except perhaps to deceive the wolves) in disguising the fact that in Britain in the 1970s it means years, not months, of comparatively weak demand and high unemployment (at least statistically).

Once, however, labour costs are stabilized and world demand is restored to less recessionary levels, there can be plenty of scope and incentive for new industrial investment in Britain, both to take account of rising export opportunities and to reorient capacity away from inflation-based consumer demand towards sounder and more sustainable markets.

The quality of demand is in the long-run more important than the quantity. It is inflation generated by "full-employment demand management" policies which is threatening the de-industrialization of Britain; and it can only be a return to stable domestic costs, buttressed by moderation in Government demand on resources and by moderate inflation in taxation, which can reverse the trend.

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Business Diary: The 'ghost' goes west • Wings-over Surbiton

tors, advertising garage proprietors, are buying "autos" as Christmas presents. Today he wonders if the law was wide enough to cover "the person by whom they were written or performed".

The OFT stops short of including misleadingly lurid paperback covers, but adds "we see no reason why materially indication which misrepresents the contents or authorship of printed or recorded matter in the broadest sense should not be made an offence".

Submissions concerning these proposals have to be in the time of the month, and so far the OFT has yet to receive a dicky bird—ghosted or not—from either the publishers, the anonymous backs or idle or illiterate celebrities.

In that event, Methven's case must be carried by default while the time comes for Mrs Shirley Williams, Minister for Prices and Consumer Protection, to make up her mind.

Meanwhile, we await with interest the autobiographies of ghosted or otherwise of both these worthies with great interest. This story, by Business Diary's Ross Davies, is as told to sub-editor Clive Lewis.

High flier John W. R. Taylor gives birth to his annual literary "baby" this morning from one of the most unlikely executive offices in Britain—the upper back bedroom of his house in a quiet road in the archetypal London suburb of Surbiton.

But only last August the OFT published proposals for a review of the "acts, which wondered where books, films or records were concerned whether the law was wide enough to cover "the person by whom they were written or performed".

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Jane's John Taylor.

Taylor is the editor of Jane's All The World's Aircraft which this year has emerged as a thumping tome, containing one and a half million words of text and 1,500 half-tone and line illustrations, and at a thumping price—£19.50.

Not that this small ransom is likely to put off any of Taylor's regular subscribers, who range from the directors of every aerospace company in the world to the top brass of the air force, including those based in Moscow. Eighty per cent of all copies printed are, in fact, sent overseas.

From his Surbiton headquarters, the head of the publishing house has communication lines open straight through the Iron Curtain from where come pearls of up-to-date aerospace information which set them slaving in the Pentagon.

In his foreword this year, he berates Britain for wasting £1,000m on 42 aviation projects cancelled since the war, and reckons that we have learnt our lesson and that the days of aerospace profligacy with our money are now over.

Silence is golden

Whether, after the Herrema affair, the Irish Republic will join Argentina and Italy as the highest risk areas for kidnapping insurance remains to be seen. But it is obvious that the recent publicity given to this form of business is causing some embarrassment in and around the Lloyd's of London insurance market in Line Street.

As one Lloyd's broker put it yesterday: "There are the ethics of this to consider: some people feel that this sort of business is against the public interest in that it might encourage kidnappings and extortion demands."

Though the Herrema kidnapping was linked to political rather than the ransom demands, every incident of this type is apparently raising the demand for insurance cover for multinational company executives working abroad.

Hitherto, Italy, South America and the Middle East have been the highest risk areas commanding the highest premiums, but one or two

underwriters are thought to be purchasing a blanket against the Republic of Ireland now, too.

There is another reason why Lloyd's and other insurers underwriting this growing business are anxious to avoid publicity. This is simply that kidnapping insurance carries what is known as a "non-disclosure warranty". In other words, if the existence of a particular individual is divulged, the policy can become automatically void.

The question of whether or not Dr Herrema was so insured is thus, understandably, met with a stonewall response in the insurance market.

Pot lot

Anthony du Boulay, a director of Christie's, will be knocking down what are for him some unusual lots when he takes to the rostrum in a forthcoming London auction.

Du Boulay is a porcelain expert, but he is stepping out of style this Saturday week, both in the line of goods coming under his hammer and in that there'll be no 10 per cent buyer's premium.

He'll be selling off everything that is at Christie's and near his home, from potted plants to chocolates as part of a community fair to be held at his parish church, St Anne's, South Lambeth.

Du Boulay won't be acting totally out of character, however, for among the items the church is asking to be given for the sale are tea sets and chamber pots.

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FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Avana bounces back and restores dividend

By Peter Elliott
A jump in pre-tax profits has enabled Avana Group, the Cardiff-based cake maker, baker and confectioner, to restore its interim dividend. The payment is 0.46p against a total last year of 0.26p. And Sir Julian Hodge, chairman, is confident enough to foresee profits of at least £1m a year, though he does not say when.

Pre-tax profits in the first 26 weeks to September 27 rose from only £25,000 to £275,000, on a turnover up from £6.8m to £8.4m. Behind the improvement, the group says, were steadier raw material prices, better stock control, falling interest rates and new products tailored to meet the consumer's diminishing purse.

The profits, which more than matched the total for the whole of last year, came too late to save Avana's expansion plans. Only two months ago, Sir Julian said the group had shelved its development programme thanks to "disarray" in the food industry. But the company is still spending £500,000 a year on new plant.

The company began its comeback during the second half of last year when profits jumped from £66,000 to £247,000, and sales from £6.64m to £8.27m. If this goes on, there is a strong chance that Avana will match 1973's peak profits of £57,000. Sir Julian adds that the company is trying to establish larger export sales on a selective basis, with encouraging results so far. All this helped the shares harden a bit.

A similar experience is likely for the full year to March 29 next. Turnover in the half year rose from £21.5m to £27.2m, while earnings a share came out at 4.2p against 4.4p.

Mr Leslie Carrier, who heads the group, says that the four dries have met some fall in demand for lighter machine-moulded work. But a strong finish is predicted. The engineering side hopes to hold its ground, but as yet there are no signs of recovery in steel. Profits in total are likely to be slightly less than last year's record £4.6m.

The three main managers—Citicorp International Bank, Moscow Narodny, and Société Générale—are believed to have agreed to underwrite \$50m each. Once the loan is completed, the Coscop's International Bank for Economic Cooperation is expected to seek a loan of \$200-300m.

The latest half reflects the downturn in activity and the acute pressure on margins foreseen in the annual statement.

Pre-tax profits in the preceding 12 months dropped from £1.2m to £0.9m, but were then hoped that despatching particularly in Japan, would soon end.

"Considerably" higher profits in the six months to September 30 than in the corresponding period are reported by merchant banker Hill Samuel Group. All leading activities, including shipping and insurance, contributed. The interim payment is 2.1p gross against 1.57p.

Last year's full-time results to March 31 were slightly above forecast at £5.74m compared with £7.14m. Sir Kenneth Keith, chairman, believed the group was well poised to take advantage of any upturn in world trade. As known, in June it recovered some £16.3m of its Harstad losses and in September gained judgment in its claim against the Bundesbank for the whole of its remaining losses.

Brighter IPD may seek re-listing
Brighter tidings, including a possible re-listing of its shares, come from International Property Development. It says that after a succession of seemingly endless difficulties, the board's "confidence and determination has been justified".

Mr H. W. King, chairman, tells shareholders that completion of the agreement for the sale of its Trinidad lands and other assets of the Government there to immediate repatriation of the initial payment, stipulations

For the purpose of equalising LIMITED's and N.V.'s dividends under the Agreement, the Advance Corporation Tax in respect of any dividend paid by LIMITED has to be treated as part of the dividend. The figures now announced for LIMITED's dividends have been calculated by reference to the current rate of Advance Corporation Tax: if the rate is changed before payment of these dividends has been completed, the figures will be adjusted accordingly and a further announcement made.

12th November 1975

This and future announcements of Unilever Quarterly Results will be reprinted in leaflet form. If you wish to be included in the mailing list for these leaflets please write to: Information Division, Unilever House, London EC4P 4BQ.

Stock markets

Unilever leads the FT index to new peak

As on the previous two days of the week, strong early gains were cut back by subsequent profit-taking on the London stock market yesterday.

The early sentiment was considerably helped by the Chancellor's overnight remarks on the need to cut public spending and another spur, especially for gilts, was the continuing hope of a cut in Minimum Lending Rate on Friday.

In general, Australian shares came back on further consideration of the position there, while a number of major results, notably a better-than-expected third quarter from Unilever, provided the other main features. The Unilever shares closed 6p firmer, at 42.4p.

The index "high" for the day was reached at 2 p.m. with a gain of 4.5, but by 4 p.m. this had been eroded to 1.5, for a final figure of 371.8.

Lonrho shares are subdued at 106p after a sharp rise to 110p at the close of its next profits bulletin. The glass is off sugar and gold, the search for a foreign domicile is thought to be tough, and the Department of Trade inquiry rumour on the way. It will also be interesting to see how motor distribution is going.

Elsewhere among the leaders ICI, with a quarterly due later this month, had another good day, adding 5p to 31.5p, but others less successful included Glaxo, off 2p to 34.5p, Beecham, which fell a penny to 32.1p, and Fisons, which finished at an unchanged 38p.

Company results also put the spotlight on the insurance sector where General Accident closed unchanged at 160p after 15p, after kicking off the season with disappointing results. Sun Alliance were a firm spot at 45.5p, up 3p, while attractions of price may soon lead investors to look at Refuge where the "A" shares closed a penny firmer at 23.6p.

Other financial shares saw the discount houses prove a firm market in line with the better trend in gilts. Prominent here were Union Discount, 15p, and the City of London, 1.55p, which added 1p to 25.5p, and Allen Harvey & Ross, 20p to 35.0p. With the

exception of the Midland, 2p better to 300p, the clearest were unchanged, though satisfactory figures from Hill Samuel had the shares rising 4p to 119p. Akroyd & Smithers, the stock jobbers continued their advance, rising 5p to 188p, while Slater Walker were again overlooked and shed another penny to 23p.

In the food sector, results from Sainsbury were a little above the lower end of the market's expectations and initially the shares traded at 153p, only to settle back to 148p, a loss of 2p.

After a 12m rights, Spillers recouped early falls to end unchanged at 47.1p, while the record result from the Avana bakery group after six months had the shares trading firmly at 16p.

There was some interest in textiles with Courtaulds, off 1p to 152p, and Coats Patons, half a point better at 59.1p, both due to report today. Sumrie Clothes lost 3p to 27p after a first-half setback and John Bright firmed a penny to 34p on a better return.

A firm electricals pitch saw twopenny gains for both GEC 142p, and Plessey, 73p, but EMI, still worried by the prospect of competition for its scanners, ended the session 5p down to 216p.

The rapidly falling price of land and the good level of building society funds led investors to turn towards housebuilding shares which had a very firm session. Gough Cooper were 4p

better at 73p, with Fairview, 57p, and Taylor Woodrow, 307p, also trading at firm levels.

Most notable among the Australian shares to fall back were Bank of NSW, 10p to 630p, MIM Holdings, 12p to 200p, and Pan Continental, which shed 45p to 700p. Here the influence was profit-taking.

The best of engineering shares were J. Brockhouse, still reacting to a favourable mention and up 10p to 182p, and GKN, 3p to the good at 250p.

Motor industry shares were led by Smiths Industries, up 7p to 147p ahead of results today, while Lucas still drew strength from its recent return and added 3p to 166p and Rolls-Royce were 1p better, at 67.4p.

The talk is that the approach to Harro Industries was by Midas Silencers, a subsidiary of Illinois Central Industries, a now-diversified American railway company. The terms are expected to be rather less than the 50p a share already mentioned. The shares were steady at 37p.

In oils, BP 58.5p and Shell 380p were not moved and gold lacked direction. Both Laker 97p and Matthews Holdings 44.1p traded a penny firmer after chairman's statements, while a half-time loss from J. Foster clipped 8p to 20p. Algate Industries 184p

went the other way by the same amount after its half-time.

R. & G. Cuthbert continued to reflect the disappointment of its return on Tuesday and lost another 1.5p to 20.1p and the outlining of rationalization plans did not affect Tom Martin Metals at 45p.

In after-hours trading, there was no decided trend with movements of a penny or two in both directions. Banks lost a little ground as did gold.

Increasing speculation about a 1 point cut in the Minimum Lending Rate this Friday led to active trading in gilts. However, with the Government Broker selling sizable amounts of the medium "top" stock, market prices did not advance by more than modestly.

Long-dated stocks rose by about a point while short-dated stocks rose by about a point. Dealers reported a fair volume of switching, mostly out of "shorts" into the "medium" tap.

The recent fall in United States prime rates, the steady position of the pound on the exchange and hopes of good trade figures tomorrow, have combined to increase optimism about the possibility of an MLI reduction.

Equity turnover on November 11 was £75.1m (19,795 bar gains). Active stocks yesterday, according to Exchange Telegraph, were ICI, Bank, Barclay's Bank, EMI, Shell, Unilever, Lucas, Lonrho, Debenhams, new British American Tobacco, Bowater, Distillers, Dalgety, Midland Bank, BP, Slater Walker, General Accident, Associated Engineering, Sainsbury and Hall-Thermotank.

No Rakusen payout
Having returned to the dividend list last year with 5p gross, Rakusen Group, (property development and food), is not paying a dividend for the year to June 30 because of the need to strengthen liquidity. Pre-tax profits are up from £102,000 to £111,000, on turnover of £1.9m, against £1.5m. Earnings a share are 1.08p, against 0.97p, and assets a share from 16.24p to 17.27p.

Latest dividends

| Company (div values) | Ord | Ymt | Pay | Year's | Prev |
|----------------------------------|------|------|------|--------|------|
| | div | ago | date | total | year |
| Alcatraz (25p) Int | 4.0 | 4.0 | 2/1 | — | 12.5 |
| Anglo Scottish Inv (25p) Fin | 0.78 | 0.78 | — | 1.4 | 1.34 |
| Acas-Brown (21) Fin | 7.73 | 7.73 | — | 7.73 | 7.73 |
| Avana (5p) Int | 0.3 | NI | 6/1 | — | 0.26 |
| Bridport-Gundry Fin | 0.48 | 0.48 | — | 1.08 | 1.03 |
| Derritron (10p) Fin | NI | 0.25 | — | — | 0.25 |
| East Midland All Press (25p) Int | 1.06 | 1.06 | 7/1 | — | 2.24 |
| John Foster (25p) Int | NI | 0.84 | — | — | 3.42 |
| Putra (25p) Int | 1.03 | 1.03 | 16/1 | — | 2.43 |
| Putra (25p) Int | 1.36 | 1.05 | — | — | 3.53 |
| Refuge (25p) Int | 1.33 | 1.25 | 2/1 | — | 3.93 |
| Mountview (5p) Int | 0.35 | 0.35 | 29/3 | — | 1.00 |
| Bakken (10p) Fin | 1.00 | 1.00 | — | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| J. Sainsbury (25p) Int | NI | 0.53 | — | NI | 0.31 |
| Sumrie (20p) Int | 1.55 | 1.5 | 6/1 | — | 4.5 |
| | NI | 1.19 | — | — | 3.08 |

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross, multiply the net dividend by 1.54. * Forecast for year.

† Adjusted for scrip.

Unilever

The Directors of Unilever announce the results for the third quarter and for the first nine months of 1975, and the interim Ordinary dividends in respect of 1975.

As has been our practice the results for the quarter and the first nine months and the comparative figures for 1974 have been calculated at comparable rates of exchange based on £1 = Fl.6.90 = U.S.\$2.32, which were the closing rates for 1974. Profit attributable to ordinary capital for the current quarter and the first nine months has also been recalculated at the rates of exchange current at the end of September 1975 being based on £1 = Fl.5.58 = U.S.\$2.04.

Combined Results (£ millions)

| Third Quarter 1975 1974 Inc./Dec. | Nine Months 1975 1974 Inc./Dec. |
|--|------------------------------------|
| SALES TO THIRD PARTIES | |
| 1,559 1,463 + 7% | 4,619 4,270 + 8% |
| 888 807 | 2,016 1,756 |
| 861 856 | 2,603 2,514 |
| OPERATING PROFIT | |
| 116.3 87.4 + 33% | 232.0 294.5 — (18%) |
| (3.2) (1.1) | (5.6) (1.1) |
| 2.8 .5 | 4.5 2.0 |
| (7.0) (8.6) | (25.3) (16.7) |
| (5.3) (5.8) | (23.8) (14.7) |
| 2.3 (2.8) | (1.5) (2.0) |
| PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION | |
| 106.9 79.2 + 38% | 205.6 269.7 — (24%) |
| (54.1) (36.5) | (107.6) (127.0) |
| (.7) (.3) | .1 (.9) |
| (7.8) (3.9) | (15.5) (13.2) |
| (7.1) (3.2) | (13.4) (11.1) |
| (.7) (.7) | (2.1) (2.1) |
| PROFIT ATTRIBUTABLE TO ORDINARY CAPITAL | |
| 46.3 38.5 + 20% | 82.5 128.6 — (36%) |
| 24.1 16.8 | 54.2 48.5 |
| 23.6 21.9 | 30.3 80.1 |
| ORDINARY CAPITAL | |
| 47.7 38.5 + 24% | 84.5 128.6 — (34%) |
| 24.1 16.8 | 54.2 48.5 |
| 23.6 21.9 | 30.3 80.1 |
| Earnings per 25p of Capital | |
| 12.84p 10.37p + 24% | 22.75p 34.63p — (34%) |

The improvement in the level of operating profit which started in the second quarter was maintained in the third quarter, and results were well above those of 1974. However, the recession in Europe continued to have an adverse effect on demand for many of our products.

In Europe, profits from edible fats began to recover, assisted by the lower level of raw material prices, but were still below those of the third quarter of 1974. Sales and profits from detergents and toilet preparations were higher than last year. Demand for chemicals, paper, plastics and packaging lagged considerably behind, and so did results. Our meat and dairy products businesses each operated at a loss in total, ice cream sales benefited from the good summer weather and profits were excellent. Results from frozen and most other foods were slightly above last year.

Our operations in the United States and Canada were satisfactory. Other countries outside Europe in total again showed improved sales and higher profits. UAC International's results for the quarter were particularly good.

The increase in profit attributable to ordinary capital was smaller than the increase in operating profit, since the level of taxation on profit remained higher than last year, and the proportion of profit attributable to outside interests also increased.

Although profits have improved significantly, and results for the fourth quarter should also exceed those of last year, profits for the year as a whole will not reach the 1974 level.

DIVIDENDS
The Boards today declared interim dividends in respect of 1975 on the Ordinary capitals at the following rates which are equivalent in value at today's rate of exchange in terms of the Equalisation Agreement between the two companies:

This and future announcements of Unilever Quarterly Results will be reprinted in leaflet form. If you wish to be included in the mailing list for these leaflets please write to: Information Division, Unilever House, London EC4P 4BQ.

Loss from John Foster but recovery under way

Yorkshire spinner and weaver John Foster plunged into a pre-tax loss in the half year to August 29 after tough going the previous year. But the board looks to better things in the second half when there should be "modest" profits.

In the six months to August 29 turnover fell from £5.5m to £4.12m, and the loss before tax amounted to £275,000 against a profit of £247,000. The interim dividend is passed, against 0.84p. No provision has yet been made for the proportion, estimated at some £25,000, attributable to John Foster & Son of a loss on the sale of a trade investment by the Australian subsidiary.

The latest half reflects the downturn in activity and the acute pressure on margins foreseen in the annual statement.

Pre-tax profits in the preceding 12 months dropped from £1.2m to £0.9m, but were then hoped that despatching particularly in Japan, would soon end.

"Considerably" higher profits in the six months to September 30 than in the corresponding period are reported by merchant banker Hill Samuel Group. All leading activities, including shipping and insurance, contributed. The interim payment is 2.1p gross against 1.57p.

Last year's full-time results to March 31 were slightly above forecast at £5.74m compared with £7.14m. Sir Kenneth Keith, chairman, believed the group was well poised to take advantage of any upturn in world trade. As known, in June it recovered some £16.3m of its Harstad losses and in September gained judgment in its claim against the Bundesbank for the whole of its remaining losses.

Brighter IPD may seek re-listing
Brighter tidings, including a possible re-listing of its shares, come from International Property Development. It says that after a succession of seemingly endless difficulties, the board's "confidence and determination has been justified".

Mr H. W. King, chairman, tells shareholders that completion of the agreement for the sale of its Trinidad lands and other assets of the Government there to immediate repatriation of the initial payment, stipulations

effectively block the further payments provided for. Meanwhile, from the initial payment the company has discharged all its unsecured creditors.

Referring to the troubled Kirby Manufacturing & Engineering (tenant of one of its properties), the chairman could not say whether his board would agree to a sale because further state money was not available to the Kirby cooperative for the acquisition. Other ways, however might be found.

Edward Bates in big recovery
Half-time results from Edward Bates, the merchant banker in which a Saudi Arabian consortium owns 25 per cent with an option on a further 15 per cent, show a healthy recovery in profits. After losing £497,000 in the first six months of last year, it now reports a £299,000 pre-tax profit for the half year to September 30. There is an extraordinary gain of £25,000 against a debit the previous year of £12.5m. The net profit is £150,000 compared with a loss of £731,000. The group says its rebuilding process with the "close cooperation of our Arab friends" continues, and events of the past two months confirm the company's cautiously optimistic view expressed in September. But it has not restored the interim dividend.

Chas Clifford board is reshuffled
A shake up of the board of Charles Clifford Industries, a metals company, has followed an abortive bid for Evered & Co (it was called off by mutual agreement because of the depressed metals market) and a disappointing trading record over the past two years.

Mr J. R. Allen, chairman of Metal Products (Willesden), who in receivership, has resigned his directorship, as did Mr P. Rowe and Mr C. Hayes earlier in the year.

Invitations to join the board have been issued and accepted by Mr C. C. Cooper, chairman of Cooper Industries, another metals group; Mr D. Sandry, a former partner in Price Waterhouse; the company's auditors; Mr W. Stanton, deputy chairman of the company's metalization subsidiary; and Mr C. Tyler, a partner in Wragge & Co, the company's solicitors.

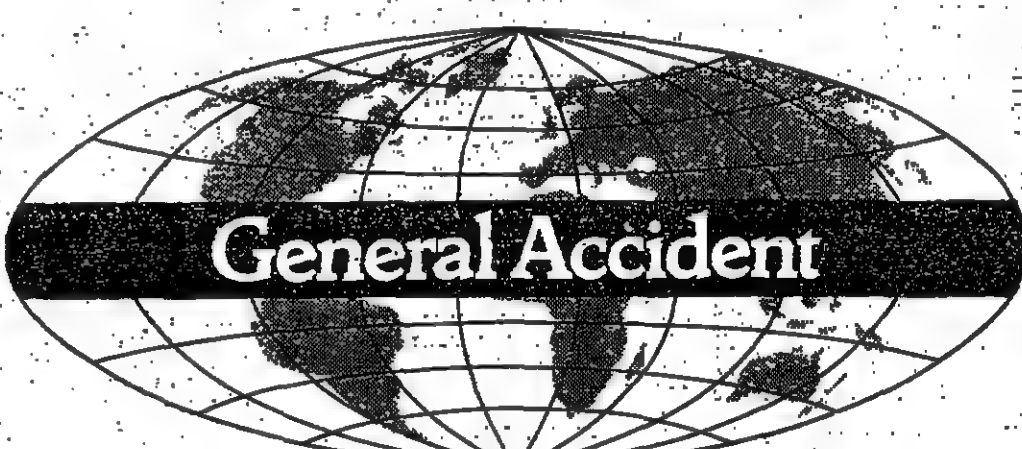
Chairmen's reports are on page 24

Alusuisse fall
Zurich, Nov. 12.—Schweizerische Aluminium AG (Alusuisse) parent company and group earnings deteriorated sharply during the first nine months of the year, the board president Herr Emanuel Meyer said. In the prospectus for the company's 100m franc loan he said that 1975 cash-flow would be slightly under the 95.7m francs last year for the parent company.

The company's earnings position was particularly affected by the state of the aluminium sector in the United States and Germany. Group sales to third parties in the first nine months fell by about a third.—Reuter.

Overseas
In a statement in London yesterday Gulf Oil said it had ended cooperation talks with Veba of West Germany. The two companies had decided, in the light of "changed conditions" now prevailing, to cease further discussions on the establishment of a "brand cooperative arrangements in the international energy field". The pair had signed letters of intent in March.

Gulf and Veba will not get together
In a statement in London yesterday Gulf Oil said it had ended cooperation talks with Veba of West Germany. The two companies had decided, in the light of "changed conditions" now prevailing, to cease further discussions on the establishment of a "brand cooperative arrangements in the international energy field". The pair had signed letters of intent in March.



Nine months' results

Interim Statement
The results for the nine months ended 30th September 1975, estimated and subject to audit, are compared below with those for the similar period in 1974, which are restated at 31st December 1974 rates of exchange; also shown are the actual results for the full year 1974.

It must be emphasised that the results for the interim period do not necessarily provide a reliable indication of those for the full year.

| | 9 months to 30.9.75 | 9 months to 30.9.74 | Year 1974 |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| £ millions | Estimate | Estimate | Actual |
| Net written premiums— | | | |
| General business | 345.3 | 279.5 | 372.8 |
| Investment Income | 30.6 | 25.3 | 35.0 |
| Underwriting Results— | | | |
| General business | -20.4 | -0.5 | -13.5 |
| Long Term Insurance Profits | 1.2 | 1.0 | 1.5 |
| Loan and Bank Interest | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.6 |
| Profit before Tax & Minority Interests | 10.2 | 24.6 | 21.4 |
| Principal Exchange rates used in converting overseas results: | | | |
| U.S.A. | \$2.04 | \$2.35 | \$2.35 |
| Canada | \$2.09 | \$2.32 | \$2.32 |

Net written premiums and investment income adjusted to exclude effects of currency fluctuations show increases of 15.5% and 12.0% respectively.

Third quarter underwriting experience was marked by a substantial loss in the United Kingdom making a total of £8.6 million for the nine months. Further losses in the U.S.A., aggregating to £10.4 million at 30th September, more than accounted for the remainder of the third quarter loss, there being small profits in Australia, Europe and South Africa.

Most departments contributed to the United Kingdom deterioration and the Property Account was particularly, if exceptionally, disappointing.

In the United States the operating ratio was 107.41% as compared with 97.35% for the same period in 1974. A slightly improving trend has continued into the third quarter when the ratio was 105.74%, those for the first and second quarters being 109.39% and 107.22% respectively.

General Accident
World Headquarters, General Buildings, Perth, Scotland.

FICIAL NEWS

Dine speeds up at Bridport-Gundry

pre-tax profits at there is a marked increase in retail trade in the early months of 1976, there will probably not be any major improvement in the first half of the year to April 1. The first half of 1975 saw a 15 per cent increase in sales to £25,000. So far, the year to July has seen a record £27,000 drop of 25.7 per cent over the £36,000 of 1974. Profits went down from £7,466 to £1,000 to £248,000, a gross dividend of 7.96p, the net 0.39p again. Earnings slipped from 6.5p to 5.5p.

Assam-Doors climb to £1.22m pre-tax

Assam-Doors is the latest tea company to report cheerfully. The big opening in 1974 trade resulted in a turnover of £1.22m, against £451,000 in 1973, themselves a big rise on the year before. The dividend rises from 10.82p gross to 11.51p. In an interim report in March, the board told shareholders that the most striking feature of season 1974 had been the strength of the market both in London and Calcutta. Margins were then at a "very satisfactory level".

Decline at Derritron

Pre-tax profits at Derritron, the Sussex-based maker of electronic equipment, in which Amalgamated Industrials has 60 per cent, fell from £100,000 to £74,000 for the year ended April 30. There is no dividend against 0.37p last year. Turnover rose 0.37p last year. Turnover rose from £1.88m to £2.39m. After deducting tax and special items of £45,000 (nil last year), the group reports a loss of £4,000, compared with a £51,000 profit. The loss at Resound was larger than expected and the Romford manufacturing unit is being relocated and the product range cut back.

Fidelity rescue hope.

The possibility of rescuing Fidelity Life Assurance from liquidation now rests on a 23,960,000 shares compared with 14,640,000 yesterday. Brokers attributed an early surge to a statement by Dr Arthur Burns, Federal Reserve chairman, yesterday that he was nearing the conclusion that New York City needed federal assistance. The brokers said the gain also was helped by support for a programme to provide a federal loan guarantee to the city and by moves between the city and New York State to avert default. AP-Dow Jones.

Street

ov 12—Wall Street today on news of a debt default by one industrial average 70 points to 852.25. Volumes gained to 385 million.

| Nov 12 | Nov 11 | Nov 10 | Nov 9 | Nov 8 | Nov 7 | Nov 6 | Nov 5 | Nov 4 | Nov 3 | Nov 2 | Nov 1 | Oct 31 | Oct 30 | Oct 29 | Oct 28 | Oct 27 | Oct 26 | Oct 25 | Oct 24 | Oct 23 | Oct 22 | Oct 21 | Oct 20 | Oct 19 | Oct 18 | Oct 17 | Oct 16 | Oct 15 | Oct 14 | Oct 13 | Oct 12 | Oct 11 | Oct 10 | Oct 9 | Oct 8 | Oct 7 | Oct 6 | Oct 5 | Oct 4 | Oct 3 | Oct 2 | Oct 1 | Sept 30 | Sept 29 | Sept 28 | Sept 27 | Sept 26 | Sept 25 | Sept 24 | Sept 23 | Sept 22 | Sept 21 | Sept 20 | Sept 19 | Sept 18 | Sept 17 | Sept 16 | Sept 15 | Sept 14 | Sept 13 | Sept 12 | Sept 11 | Sept 10 | Sept 9 | Sept 8 | Sept 7 | Sept 6 | Sept 5 | Sept 4 | Sept 3 | Sept 2 | Sept 1 | Aug 31 | Aug 30 | Aug 29 | Aug 28 | Aug 27 | Aug 26 | Aug 25 | Aug 24 | Aug 23 | Aug 22 | Aug 21 | Aug 20 | Aug 19 | Aug 18 | Aug 17 | Aug 16 | Aug 15 | Aug 14 | Aug 13 | Aug 12 | Aug 11 | Aug 10 | Aug 9 | Aug 8 | Aug 7 | Aug 6 | Aug 5 | Aug 4 | Aug 3 | Aug 2 | Aug 1 | July 31 | July 30 | July 29 | July 28 | July 27 | July 26 | July 25 | July 24 | July 23 | July 22 | July 21 | July 20 | July 19 | July 18 | July 17 | July 16 | July 15 | July 14 | July 13 | July 12 | July 11 | July 10 | July 9 | July 8 | July 7 | July 6 | July 5 | July 4 | July 3 | July 2 | July 1 | June 30 | June 29 | June 28 | June 27 | June 26 | June 25 | June 24 | June 23 | June 22 | June 21 | June 20 | June 19 | June 18 | June 17 | June 16 | June 15 | June 14 | June 13 | June 12 | June 11 | June 10 | June 9 | June 8 | June 7 | June 6 | June 5 | June 4 | June 3 | June 2 | June 1 | May 31 | May 30 | May 29 | May 28 | May 27 | May 26 | May 25 | May 24 | May 23 | May 22 | May 21 | May 20 | May 19 | May 18 | May 17 | May 16 | May 15 | May 14 | May 13 | May 12 | May 11 | May 10 | May 9 | May 8 | May 7 | May 6 | May 5 | May 4 | May 3 | May 2 | May 1 | April 30 | April 29 | April 28 | April 27 | April 26 | April 25 | April 24 | April 23 | April 22 | April 21 | April 20 | April 19 | April 18 | April 17 | April 16 | April 15 | April 14 | April 13 | April 12 | April 11 | April 10 | April 9 | April 8 | April 7 | April 6 | April 5 | April 4 | April 3 | April 2 | April 1 | March 31 | March 30 | March 29 | March 28 | March 27 | March 26 | March 25 | March 24 | March 23 | March 22 | March 21 | March 20 | March 19 | March 18 | March 17 | March 16 | March 15 | March 14 | March 13 | March 12 | March 11 | March 10 | March 9 | March 8 | March 7 | March 6 | March 5 | March 4 | March 3 | March 2 | March 1 | February 29 | February 28 | February 27 | February 26 | February 25 | February 24 | February 23 | February 22 | February 21 | February 20 | February 19 | February 18 | February 17 | February 16 | February 15 | February 14 | February 13 | February 12 | February 11 | February 10 | February 9 | February 8 | February 7 | February 6 | February 5 | February 4 | February 3 | February 2 | February 1 | January 31 | January 30 | January 29 | January 28 | January 27 | January 26 | January 25 | January 24 | January 23 | January 22 | January 21 | January 20 | January 19 | January 18 | January 17 | January 16 | January 15 | January 14 | January 13 | January 12 | January 11 | January 10 | January 9 | January 8 | January 7 | January 6 | January 5 | January 4 | January 3 | January 2 | January 1 | December 31 | December 30 | December 29 | December 28 | December 27 | December 26 | December 25 | December 24 | December 23 | December 22 | December 21 | December 20 | December 19 | December 18 | December 17 | December 16 | December 15 | December 14 | December 13 | December 12 | December 11 | December 10 | December 9 | December 8 | December 7 | December 6 | December 5 | December 4 | December 3 | December 2 | December 1 | November 30 | November 29 | November 28 | November 27 | November 26 | November 25 | November 24 | November 23 | November 22 | November 21 | November 20 | November 19 | November 18 | November 17 | November 16 | November 15 | November 14 | November 13 | November 12 | November 11 | November 10 | November 9 | November 8 | November 7 | 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17 | May 16 | May 15 | May 14 | May 13 | May 12 | May 11 | May 10 | May 9 | May 8 | May 7 | May 6 | May 5 | May 4 | May 3 | May 2 | May 1 | April 30 | April 29 | April 28 | April 27 | April 26 | April 25 | April 24 | April 23 | April 22 | April 21 | April 20 | April 19 | April 18 | April 17 | April 16 | April 15 | April 14 | April 13 | April 12 | April 11 | April 10 | April 9 | April 8 | April 7 | April 6 | April 5 | April 4 | April 3 | April 2 | April 1 | March 31 | March 30 | March 29 | March 28 | March 27 | March 26 | March 25 | March 24 | March 23 | March 22 | March 21 | March 20 | March 19 | March 18 | March 17 | March 16 | March 15 | March 14 | March 13 | March 12 | March 11 | March 10 | March 9 | March 8 | March 7 | March 6 | March 5 | March 4 | March 3 | March 2 | March 1 | February 29 | February 28 | February 27 | February 26 | February 25 | February 24 | February 23 | February 22 | February 21 | February 20 | February 19 | February 18 | February 17 | February 16 | February 15 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